

The Middlebury Campus

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Thursday, February 28, 2008

Since 1905



LIGHT UP MY LIFE

Students gathered outside of Ross Commons on Feb. 22 to watch fireworks and enjoy a bonfire. The events were part of the weekend Winter Carnival celebration. To read a summary of the events, turn to page 2.

Andrew Ngeow

Cake to play spring concert

By Scott Greene
News Editor

The Concert Committee of the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) announced over the weekend that alternative rock group Cake will headline its Spring Concert on April 19 at Chip Kenyon '85 Arena, a performance which will mark the band's first trip to the East Coast since 2006. Seeking to appeal to a broad range of student interests across campus, MCAB's decision reflects the com-

mittee's year-long desire to provide students with a diverse lineup of shows, a lineup which has already included Regina Spektor and Girl Talk.

"Deciding on a concert is a long strenuous process and in the end we decided that Cake would be the best show here at Middlebury," Concert Committee co-chair Bill Zrike '09 said. "Cake was hands-down our first choice."

MCAB made great efforts to balance a wide scope of student

interest in selecting Cake, the only group to which it made an offer. It invited students to voice their preference for the concert on Jan. 28 in an online poll to give the committee a general idea of what type of music students most desired to hear in April.

The results of the poll indicated a "real desire" for a rock band to perform in the concert, according to Sam Morrill '08, the Concert Committee's other co-chair. Morrill noted that the committee felt that Cake has a broad appeal across campus and would be well received by almost everyone, as opposed to last year's performance by Guster.

"I think that many people felt

SEE CAKE, PAGE 5



Courtesy

In its first East Coast concert since 2006, Cake takes the stage April 19.

Council considers KDR, Delta cases

By Andrew Fuller
Staff Writer

Members of the Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) and Delta social houses met with the Community Council on Feb. 26 to discuss unresolved issues regarding their status for 2008-2009. The Community Council unanimously approved recommendations to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz that Delta regain residential status and be situated in Prescott House and that KDR be approved for next year with stipulations.

Since its spring of 2006 eviction from Prescott House, Delta has been denied residential status. Seeking a return to Prescott,

Delta appealed to the Council for the reinstatement of its residential status, arguing Delta was prepared to fill Prescott House and prevent a reoccurrence of past situations.

"We have overwhelming interest — over 30 people expressing interest in living in the house. We definitely have the numbers to fill Prescott," said Delta President Chris Angelini '08.

When Council member Michael Glidden asked whether the house had an individual capable of overseeing the management of the property, and inquired whether such a person would be living in

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 5

Trustees approve Proctor overhaul

By Cloe Shasha
Staff Writer

Proctor Terrace, Woodstove Lounge and the entire lower floor of Proctor Dining Hall will close to students starting March 10 as part of the first phase of a renovation effort. The main dining hall will remain open for the duration of the spring term.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and the trustees of the College approved the first step of Proctor Dining Hall's renovation on the weekend of Feb. 15. Facilities Services Project Manager Mark Gleason will work on the renovation of Proctor and said that the main terrace will go under construction starting in little over a week.

"This is the only phase that has been approved," Gleason said. "We will take off the concrete floor of the terrace and rebuild it."

The renovation will affect students for the remainder of the spring term. The first step of the renovation will require that all rooms below the main dining room and deck be evacuated, so Woodstove Lounge will house books that are currently in the bookstore below. Until the renovation of the deck is completed, the bookstore will be scattered throughout the main level of Proctor.

The booths from Woodstove Lounge will move to the emergency exit alcove behind the kitchen. Woodstove Lounge and the deck entrances to the dining hall will close to students beginning in March, and the

entrance to Proctor will relocate to the south door of the current bookstore.

Since November of 2006, Dining Services, Liebowitz and the trustees of the College have discussed Proctor's rehabilitation. Proctor, from the perspective of Dining Services and staff, needs improvements. Built in 1959, the building is deteriorating and has been leaking for years. The lower Proctor dining room cannot be used because of water flooding.

Workers plan to make the terrace handicapped accessible as part of the first phase of the renovation effort.

"With the first step of the renovation, we will make the terrace accessible so that no stairs or ramps are needed," said Gleason. "We will raise the sidewalk with a gradual incline to get up to the terrace. We want to have that worked on before the summer language schools begin."

If the trustees and Liebowitz approve the second phase of changes, Proctor will remain closed for the full 2008-2009 academic year. A temporary dining hall will be placed in one of the Freeman International Center (FIC) buildings. Language tables, however, will not be relocated. The Theater Department may need to withdraw its occupancy of parts of the Cook building.

Because dining events that are held by the catering group already work from the FIC kitchen, this temporary dining hall will be a very busy

SEE TERRACE, PAGE 5

Garza family outsources search

By Anthony Adragna
News Editor

Citing a lack of progress and a need for new eyes, mother of missing Middlebury student Nicholas Garza '11 has enlisted the help of a volunteer search and effort group.

Texas Equusearch, a volunteer and non-profit group with significant experience in searching for missing people will arrive in Middlebury on March 3 to assist in the search efforts, according to Plattsburgh-based WPTZ.

"I need experts here," Nicholas's mother Natalie Garza told the television station. "I need somebody to treat this like a criminal investigation."

After days of exhaustive searching, the Vermont State Police Search and Rescue team completed their search of the campus grounds. Members of the College's Office of Facilities Services searched buildings and rooftops twice for signs of Garza but yielded no promising leads.

Dean of the College Tim Spears said he knew little about Texas Equusearch assisting the search efforts.

"We don't know a lot," he said. "All of the investigation is through the Middlebury Police Department [MPD]. We don't know when this

group will arrive on campus."

In a release to students, the College said the MPD, currently in charge of the investigation, would call back the state for assistance, if necessary, once the snowpack melted in the spring.

Natalie Garza believes the investigation has stalled and cited the

need for new perspectives in her comments to WPTZ.

"I don't see anything moving forward," she said. "I think an expert is needed to come in with a different set of eyes and give us some place to go."

SEE SEARCH, PAGE 3

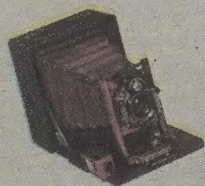


Andrew Ngeow

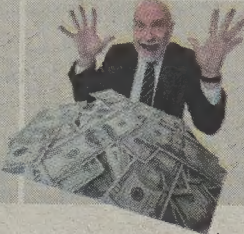
A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Seniors toured the almost-complete Axinn Center Feb. 26. Pictured is the Class of 2008's senior gift, the newly restored reading room.

this week



Click!
The Sheldon Museum unveils a new photo exhibit, page 7



Finance your future
Making an education at the College more affordable, page 14

Cold as ice
See who won the Winter Carnival ice sculpture contest, page 20



Students flock to variety of Winter Carnival events

By Adam Dede
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of students crowded together, clutching their cups of hot chocolate, around the Winter Carnival kick-off bonfire Thursday night — one of many events added to this year's Carnival schedule. As both the fire and the crowd swelled, fireworks appeared over Ross, creating a perfect background for the scene.

"This is one of those moments that just makes me realize, 'wow, I really made it. I'm here at Middlebury,'" said Kris Williams '11.

This Carnival also saw the return of both snow sculpture and Northern Lights contests. Even with these well-attended events, however, the future of Winter Carnival is still uncertain and will depend upon the Calendar Committee, which will make a recommendation later this spring regarding the Carnival's traditional Friday break from classes. It is likely that if the Friday off for Carnival is to continue, the exam period will have to be shortened to provide an extra day for the Carnival. The schedule shift is necessary due to the student research symposium, which is slated to take the day off traditionally allotted for Winter Carnival.

The Student Government Association

(SGA) is currently formulating an official proposal to the Calendar Committee and the administration that will ask for the reinstatement of the Carnival's Friday break from classes. The proposal will focus on the success of this year's Carnival and the long running tradition that the day off represents.

With the theme 'Winter Carnival,' this year's celebration focused heavily on the traditional activities of the weekend. For the first time in over 20 years, organized snow sculpting took place with each commons creating its own unique work of art from the six-foot cubes erected in front of McCullough Student Center. The winning sculpture was the entry from Wonnacott Commons, which depicted a game of 'ice pong' complete with ice Solo cups and ping pong balls. The sculpture was designed and overseen by Alex Benepe '09. Also placing were a wolf sculpture by Ross Commons in second place and one of a snowflake by Brain-

erd Commons in third.

The Northern Lights competitions, which consisted of tug-o-war, sled racing, human dogsled and snowshoe races, also returned after an extended absence. The Middlebury Mountain Club organized the event. Sleds crashed into each other, sending laughing students rolling as teams scrambled their way down the hill in front of Gifford Hall in the sled race. Bewildered riders were left behind as human dogsled teams ran awry of the sleds they towed, and teams fell in heaps during

tug-o-war. Of the six teams competing, four tied for first place, and after deliberation, the \$200 prize was split among the four teams. Some, however, calling jocularly for a more definitive winner, began a shirtless dance-off to the music provided by DJ Ben Schiffer '10.

"It was a well-put-together event, and props to the Mountain Club for putting it all together," said Christian Woodard '11. "It'll be

even better next year, too. Also, having Ben Schiffer DJ was really classy, and the naked dance was, of course, wonderful."

Besides these new and returning events the ever-popular ski races at the Middlebury Snow Bowl and Rikert Ski Touring Center were well attended, with students out in force to support the Middlebury ski team. Also, the Bowl saw the addition of a live band performance late Friday morning.

"It's just really nice to be able to watch the ski team compete close to home," said Emer Feighery '09.

The weekend concluded Saturday night with the traditional Winter Ball. Despite complaints that the dance was overpriced at \$18-\$20 a ticket, many still turned out to get their groove on to the euphonious covers played by RSVP and Downtown Fever.

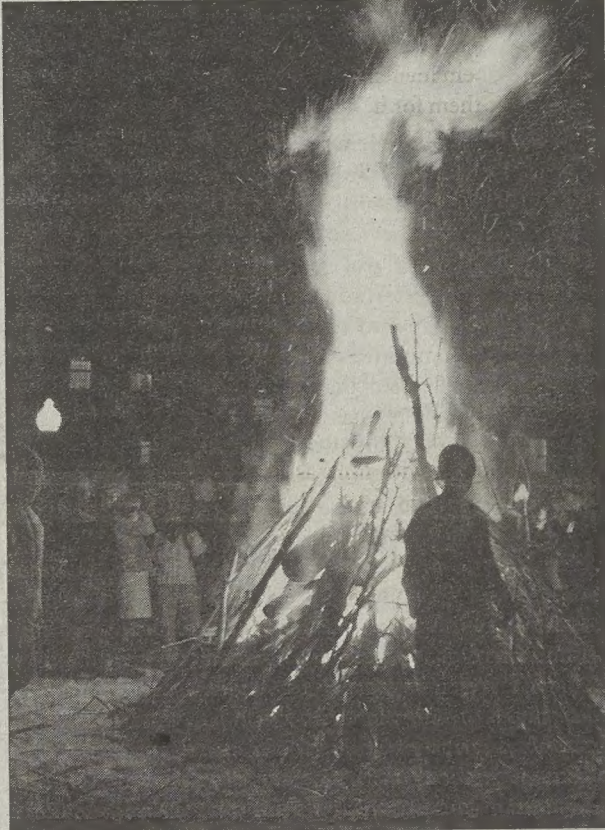
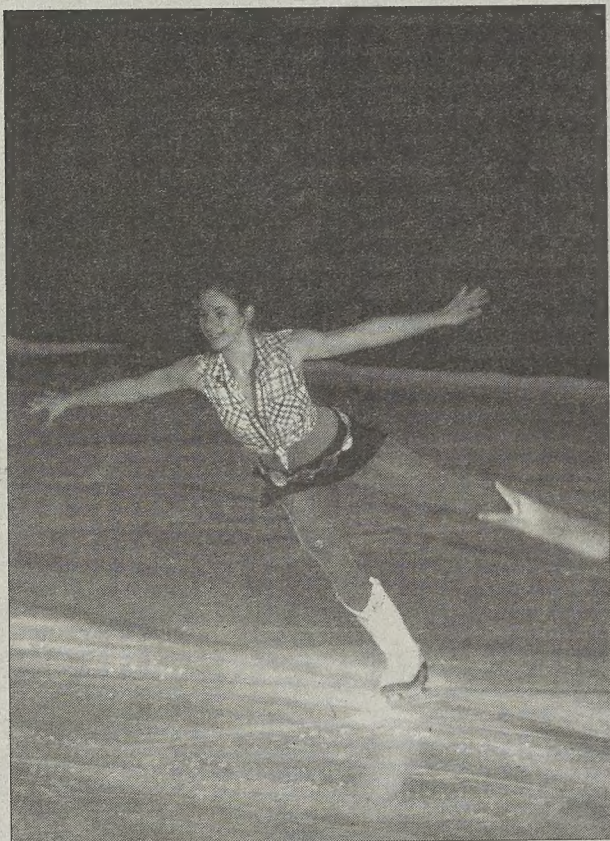
"The music was so good, I accidentally elbowed my date in the face," said Matt Engle '11. But minor injuries aside, everyone seemed to have a good time.

As SGA President Max Nardini '08 commented, "Everyone's a ball person."

The success of this year's Carnival has given hope to many that the tradition will be around for years to come.

This is one of those moments that just makes me realize, 'wow, I really made it. I'm here at Middlebury.'

—Kris Williams '11



Tianza Ma/ Andrew Ngeow/ Mike Bayersdorfer

At Winter Carnival, students attended a number of student-led activities. An ice skater (left) delighted, a bonfire (middle) warmed the night air and ski races (right) awed onlookers.

Overcrowded classes limit options for students

By Adam Dede
STAFF WRITER

Overfilled classes have left many students scrambling for second and third choices in course selections. This is due, in large part, to the size of the class of 2011, and although the long term recommendation of the Strategic Plan to add 25 more faculty members will help as current first years move through Middlebury, the current tightness has caused problems.

"As soon as we knew that the fall class was going to be big, we knew we had to address it," Dean of Faculty Susan Campbell said.

According to Campbell, the difficulty is that her office did not know the size of the incoming class until the summer, which, in the academic community, is very late to hire new faculty members. With last minute efforts, Campbell was able to add classes in English and American literatures, Spanish, economics, psychology and math.

"We're lucky that we have some talented colleagues who live in the area," Campbell said.

Even with the College's efforts to add classes and faculty, the registration squeeze has left many students frustrated.

Jeronimo Riefkohl '11, for example, has been shut out of International Politics in

both the fall and spring semesters. Riefkohl's spring semester registration has also left him shut out of a Spanish film class and an Islamic history course. Currently he is taking French, Greek Philosophy and Environmental Science.

"I couldn't find a fourth class that I wanted to take," Riefkohl said.

Riefkohl suggested that Middlebury should adopt a registration system similar to Stanford University's in which students are given a certain number of points to effectively bid for the classes they want. Thus, if a student wants a certain class he will put a large portion of his points on that class, while possibly sacrificing his chances to get into other classes.

Some have also suggested that faculty should simply allow more students into already full classes, an idea Campbell sees as a step in the wrong direction.

"We don't want to increase class sizes if we can help it," Campbell said. "Class size influences both student experience and faculty work load."

Instead, Campbell is working to hire more faculty to provide for the needs of the swollen student body.

"Next year, the number of faculty will be five larger than it is this year," Campbell said. "We'll continue to try and add new courses where we need them."

Campbell said she hopes to have Strategic Plan of 25 new faculty positions implemented in five to seven years.

Some students, however, will likely still face problems, especially in smaller departments, such as Arabic, geology, and environmental studies, which have been growing in popularity and pose a challenge for Campbell when hiring new faculty.

"There just aren't many people in Ver-

It's a tremendous credit to Middlebury that we had an increase in our yield last year.

—Bob Claggett

mont qualified to teach Arabic," she said.

Kristoffer Williams '11, who attempted to get into both Conservation Policy and Nature's Meanings, was another student left scrambling for schedule substitutions, but, in his case it was all for the best.

"I feel like even though I didn't get the classes I wanted I ended up taking classes that I really like, which I never would have thought of taking before," Williams said.

Even with the current scheduling difficulties, however, it is likely that by next year most issues will have been taken care of with

new faculty hires, provided the class of 2012 is kept to within reasonable bounds, an issue Dean of Admissions Bob Claggett is currently grappling with.

"It's interesting, this is kind of an admissions perfect storm in some sense," said Claggett, who went on to explain that with Harvard and Princeton dropping their early decision programs and many colleges taking loans out of financial aid packages the admissions yield will be hard to predict.

Claggett also noted that this year's applicant pool is the largest the College has ever seen and the most well qualified. Normally, these factors would cause a lower yield, but last year's high percentage of matriculating students proved that predictions can be wrong. Claggett views the high yield as a good long-term sign for Middlebury.

"It's a tremendous credit to Middlebury that we had an increase in our yield last year," said Claggett. "It would be great if we got the same yield as last year again, and it would speak volumes for what Middlebury represents."

This year the admissions office is preparing for the possibility of another high yield by admitting 250-300 fewer students.

Claggett also noted the likelihood that the wait list will be utilized in filling out the class of 2012.

Economic diversity tops College priorities

By Denizhan Duran
STAFF WRITER

Minorities make up 24 percent of the Class of 2011, according to the Dean of Admissions Bob Clagett, up from 20 percent for the whole student body as a result of the effort to make Middlebury more racially and socio-economically diverse. This is similar to patterns in universities such as Harvard and Yale, which have recently revised their financial aid programs to make attending the schools more affordable for lower income students.

According to Clagett, the College's admissions process seeks to increase socio-economic diversity by disregarding applicants' financial background, instead focusing on each prospective student's academic and personal strengths.

"All background factors regarding a student's financial background are taken into consideration after admission," said Clagett. "Once admitted, the Student Financial Services office treats everyone equally in the determination of their need."

The new statistics reflect the increase in the College's diversity, both socioeconomic and ethnic.

"Forty-eight percent of students in the Class of 2011 are receiving grant-assistance from Middlebury, and 24 percent of the class is U.S. citizens of color," Clagett added. "To increase socio-economic and racial diversity of the College are among the most important goals of the Strategic Plan," he said, emphasizing that this trend was to continue. As of this year, 19-20 percent of the students in the College are students of color.

Whereas Clagett works on ways to attract students from different racial and socio-economic groups to the College, Shirley Ramirez, vice president for Institutional Planning and Diversity, works on moving beyond this — not just diversifying the student body, but rather trying to enrich everyone's experience at the College. All members of the College benefit from a more diverse student body, Ramirez said. She also oversees some of the programs Middlebury is involved with in order to increase diversity.

"We are trying to reach many new community-based organizations in both rural and urban places," she said, "and the partnerships we have formed are being deepened and enhanced to connect students to Middlebury."

Such a communication method is gradually having an effect on the kind of applicants who are in Middlebury's pool, with the College receiving applications that it would not have gotten before. In terms of increasing socio-economic diversity as well as racial diversity, the Board of Trustees is especially focused on increasing financial aid for students. The two goals go hand in hand.

"The class background of applicants needs to be deeply valued," added Ramirez.

The biggest program that Middlebury is involved with is the Posse Foundation. Posse is an organization that exists to help "urban diverse leaders." This year, the foundation has given scholarships to 560 people

someone from a disadvantaged background to succeed.

The importance of taking socio-economic background into consideration in the admissions process and thus increasing economic mobility "has been an important one for many years, but it has been receiving a great deal of attention in the past three to five years," said Clagett. He underlined the importance of the Higher Education Act of 1965, which brought the issue of socio-economic diversity to the attention of colleges and universities nationwide. It introduced need-based federal aid like Pell Grants to people from lower income groups.

Big universities like Harvard and Yale are also revising their financial aid policies. If families of students accepted to Harvard are earning less than \$60,000, then they will not be asked to contribute to the student's comprehensive fee. Yale is also following this

policy, and they have also decided to reduce the cost for families making under \$200,000 a year. All of these are parts of efforts to make college education more accessible and to make student bodies more socio-economically diverse, and Middlebury is a part of this wave as well by reducing the loan portion of the financial aid package and replacing it with grants.

Middlebury is still progressing in terms of promoting racial and socio-economic diversity. One of Middlebury's challenges, Ramirez states, comes from "our rural location. It just means that we have to be more aggressive, more innovative and more creative in terms of attracting students from all backgrounds."

across the country. There are 29 liberal arts colleges that are members of the foundation, and each of them has 40 Posse scholars, 10 in each class. Middlebury has been a member of this program for the last 10 years. Sabrina Bektsevic '11, a Posse scholar from Queens, N.Y., said that Posse not only helps them financially, but prepares them mentally for college, in a way, "training" them for it. This way, students from diverse backgrounds are able to form their "Posses" before they go to college. She has attended many different writing workshops and discussions on diversity with Posse.

"I was raised in a community which consists mostly of former Yugoslavians," said Bektsevic in an interview. "Our generation of teenagers ends up in community colleges or marries at a young age... and the ones that don't do either just work." Even if the student graduates, his Posse remains with him, as it also helps them during the job application process. Posse is a merit-based, not need-based program, focusing not on the economic situation of the candidates but their leadership and ethnic background.

Middlebury's effort in increasing diversity is the part of the solution to a nationwide problem. In an article published in *The New York Times* last Wednesday, Erik Eckholm pointed out the stagnation in economic mobility, or the opportunity for children "of poor or middle class to climb up the income ladder." This has not changed in the past three decades, thus hindering the chance of



overseas briefing

English or American Politics?

by Tarsi Dunlop

London — In London, American politics is a hot-button topic of conversation. Sometimes snippets are heard in coffee shops, other times politics dominates students' conversations, and occasionally it is background fodder for class discussions. Regardless, as an American abroad — although it is England — the topic of who will win what is a subject of great debate. I find my knowledge of American government, although I'm not anywhere near an expert, enough to explain some nuances to my new friends. Some big questions are: will a new President be able to get the country out of Iraq, who do you think will win the primaries, what about the general election, when do you vote? Yikes. I do not have answers to all questions that come my way, I have guesses, hunches and of course many hopes that some would say are overly optimistic. I did vote via absentee ballot and it did cross an ocean in time to be counted.

When glancing at the television screens around the LSE, there is often coverage of the candidates. The LSE College Democrats (no, there is no Republican organization on campus) set up a USA week around Super Tuesday. American politics are alive and well here, and thanks to the constant dialogue, the topic and bigger questions are never far from my mind. After Senator Edward M. Kennedy endorsed Barack Obama, I felt somewhat vindicated in my hopes that this charismatic speaker is not, as many people rightfully speculate, too naïve for politics. I am a registered Democrat and while I have the utmost respect for John McCain, as I think many do regardless of their political affiliation, I would like to see the White House change hands. I'm not entirely sure if you can find a huge number of differences between the two Democratic candidates, but each has their flaws and strengths and I am curious about either one's chances when facing John McCain.

I think our generation, meaning the newest voting age bracket that is often cited as the least participatory in the election process, is ready to take a little bit of a leap now. It is time for a change. People in England seem pretty pro-Obama, at least many that I've talked to, and it is for this exact reason. They liked Bill Clinton, but there is something about Barack Obama that is significantly appealing to them. Yes, perhaps he is inexperienced. There will be mistakes along the way, after all look at the last seven years. A smooth presidency seems rather impossible to hope for considering the world today.

Maybe there is something to be said for taking a safe road with someone familiar who has been around the White House, but it is the discussions that I have here in England that remind me there is a true desire for change. The Clinton Presidency was a good one by most standards, but do we need a dynasty to ensure a return to that? I don't think that is necessarily so, and while I would not object to seeing a woman in the White House, if you are going to look at symbolic choices then there is no need to harp on how either Democratic candidate represents a shift. The British people care about American politics, often times it seems as though they might care more than the average American. It is a significant reminder of how the consequences of our decisions as American citizens do stretch far beyond our borders.

Search to include third party

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Spears said efforts are still ongoing to search outer parts of campus.

"The search has moved from the center of campus to peripheral areas," he said. "We are still searching campus. We are continuing to go building by building. We are searching snow banks and parking lots. We also are looking down in areas like Weybridge Street. The snow has been a challenge."

The family established a Web site, www.nicholasgarza.org, to inform visitors about Nick. The site thanked Middlebury for their support at a vigil last week.

"We would like to express our deepest thanks and gratitude to everyone who attended the candlelight vigil last night at the Middlebury campus chapel," the message said. "Words cannot express our appreciation for your thoughts and prayers for Nick's safe return."

Texas Equusearch worked on the efforts to locate Natalie Holloway, a teenager who disappeared during a high school graduation trip to Aruba. The organization has over 350 members currently.

Nick Garza disappeared after being seen at a late-night social gathering on the evening of Feb. 5.

A fund has been established to assist the Garza family with travel and other expenses during this difficult time. Anyone who wishes to make a donation can write a check to the "Garza Family Fund" and send the donation to "Natalie Garza, c/o Margaret Falcone, 8444 Vista Verde, Albuquerque NM 87120."

Those with useful information about Garza or his whereabouts have been asked to contact the College's Department of Public Safety at 802-443-5911 or the Middlebury Police Department at 802-388-3191.



Daniela Dimitrova

SING US A SONG, YOU'RE THE A CAPPELLA MAN

Renowned a cappella group Hyannis Sound performed on Feb. 23 as part of a three-act show in Mead Chapel marking the end of the Vermont A Cappella Summit — a day-long series of workshops and discussions about the centuries-old art of unaccompanied song.

college shorts

by Annabelle Fowler, News Writer

Cypress College police arrest pro-life activists

Pro-life activists were arrested on Thursday for trespassing on the campus of Cypress College.

According to Mark Posner, public information officer at Cypress College, the group, Survivors of the Abortion Holocaust, was asked to move to College's free-speech zone three times by three different sources, including the college president.

Kortney Blythe, the director of the group, said the area was not sufficient to promote their cause. "It [was] more like a confining pen than a free-speech zone," she said.

The arrest created controversy among onlooking students. Some like Sean Sticht advocated freedom of speech, whereas others like Joe Abarr believed the group's protest was out of place.

Blythe said that it was the third or fourth time her group had been arrested on the Cypress College campus, and that they had always been found innocent. The five activists were held in the back of a police car in handcuffs for 30 minutes before being issued citations and being allowed to leave.

— The Cypress Chronicle

Exam week study space spurs drama at Colgate

The return of a 24-hour study space during exam week after the completion of the Case Library and Geyer Center for Information Technology at Colgate University is not yet a reality.

The original plan for students to access the designated study areas on level five involved ID card readers at level three and extra workers to staff the floors between the entrance and the study space.

University Librarian and Professor in the University Libraries Joanne Schneider said that it is troublesome getting staff to work during the off-hours. "We had the money but just couldn't find the people," she explained.

A new potential 24-hour study space with printers may be identified in the future. Until then, however, students have been rebelling against library staff, hiding in the building after closing hours and propping doors open to keep them from locking.

— The Colgate Maroon-News

Dartmouth adds lights to security vehicles

In addition to the stationary blue lights around Dartmouth College campus, new amber lights have been installed on their Safety and Security vehicles.

"We want people that may be on campus for illegitimate reasons to know we're around; we want to be visible as a deterrent," Harry Kinne, director of Safety and Security and College proctor, said. "But we also want to be identifiable so that students who may need help can see us from a distance, even in the dark."

Permits for vehicle lights were only just obtained from the State of New Hampshire. The new amber lights can be seen from about 300 yards. Safety and Security vehicles will also be equipped with stronger lights that will be used to warn students of dangerous situations like hurricanes or roadblocks.

The new lights are only one part of Dartmouth's mass notification system which, according to Kinne, includes the college Web site and mass e-mails.

— The Dartmouth

Faculty discusses Garza, relationship policy

By Samantha Michaels
STAFF WRITER

Faculty members faced a weighty agenda as they assembled for their monthly meeting on Feb. 25 in McCardell Bicentennial Hall, with Nicholas Garza's '11 disappearance and the policy draft on student-staff sexual relationships prominent on the list of concerns.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Dean of the College Tim Spears provided the group with an update on the search for Garza, who has been missing since Feb. 5. According to Spears, the Vermont State Police (VSP) Search and Rescue Team is back at the College and will be extending their search to more peripheral regions of campus — including parking lots and smaller nooks of buildings.

As explained by Liebowitz, the College offers resources to aid in this investigation, and while Public Safety does not have oversight of the situation, the department is doing everything it can to help the Middlebury Police Department in their efforts.

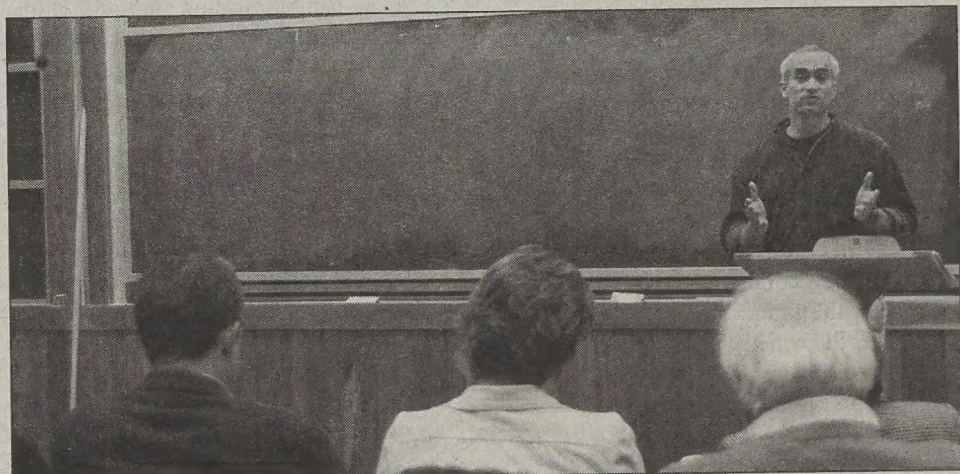
In addition, Garza's mother Natalie has contacted a Texas-based search and recovery organization called Equusearch. The team will be arriving sometime this week, said Liebowitz, and it will work primarily with the Middlebury Police Department. Following the recommendation of the Burlington Police Department, Natalie has also sought psychic advice — a practice which is occasionally utilized by law enforcement professionals.

The search is intensive, but the snow remains an extreme impediment. According to the commander of the VSP Search and Rescue team, the probability of recovery in such circumstances is as low as 40 percent. The current state of Garza's disappearance thus remains riddled with uncertainty.

"The more information we get, the more questions arise and, at this time, the less information we can be sure of," said Liebowitz. "The assumptions upon which the initial searches were based are being questioned, and that has led to some different tangents on the search."

Spears echoed this sentiment. "I think what [President Liebowitz] is getting at is that when you put together a time-line based on input from a bunch of different people, it's confusing," he said. "I think also [that because] the search and rescue teams haven't found anything yet ... it encourages one to look beyond what we know now, and it raises questions about what might have happened. I think this kind of speculation is a product of the uncertainty that we are all feeling."

Following Monday's meeting, admin-



Grace Duggan

Miguel Fernandez leads discussion on the proposals regarding student-faculty relationships.

istrators emphasized that the College is still encouraging all students and community members with information about Garza's disappearance or whereabouts in early February to contact the Middlebury Police Department (MPD). Officials are investigating all leads and scenarios.

Conversation at the Feb. 25 meeting further centered on administrative policy regarding sexual relationships between faculty and students. Debate has arisen between faculty members on the issue, with some supporting a policy of mandatory notification of misconduct followed by appropriate action, while others suggested an outright ban.

After extensive research and discussion, the Faculty Council has adopted the former stance. Under their proposed policy, "the College requires that any faculty member who has supervisory, evaluative, coaching, or pedagogical responsibilities with respect to a student with whom he or she has had, or currently has, a sexual relationship to notify the Dean of the Faculty immediately." Following this notification, the Dean of Faculty and Dean of the College would take necessary steps to ensure academic integrity for the student, while simultaneously considering the interests of faculty and the larger College community.

Though the policy asserts a strong expectation for faculty to avoid these relationships, it resists banning them completely — a choice which would be logistically difficult, if not impossible, to enforce. The Faculty Council warned that a ban might threaten the safety of involved students, as a faculty member might silence his or her partner in light of possible suspension.

Others present at the Feb. 25 meeting met such claims with dissent. Stephen Donadio, Fulton Professor of Humanities at the College, most notably raised objection. "What's being

proposed is altogether unrealistic," said Donadio. "[The Faculty Council's current policy] makes the College administration complicit in the behavior it addresses. I think the machinery of reporting is altogether fantastic."

From this perspective, Donadio offered a simple counterproposal. He suggested that the College regard sexual relationships between faculty and students as unethical and unprofessional, continuing that such behavior should be met with a range of penalties — including termination of employment.

While Donadio's proposal did gain some support among others at the meeting, the group ultimately voted against it, choosing instead to follow the Faculty Council's recommended policy of notification. Donadio's concerns nevertheless raised some important questions.

One faculty member warned that the current administrative policy will fail to address interests of the wider professional community. If a sexual affiliation exists between any student and faculty member, it might taint all other academic relationships, encouraging surrounding students to regard their professors in appropriate sexual terms.

Another opponent worried that the present policy places an emphasis on serial abuse, implying that sexual relationships will only be punished when they have become frequent or habitual for a particular faculty member.

Still others responded that the Faculty Council's policy — and the firm insistence on notification — strikes an excellent balance of avoiding inappropriate sexual relationships and protecting the involved parties.

In the end, discussion was put on hold due to time constraints of the Feb. 25 meeting. Further conversation on the matter, as well as efforts to perfect the Faculty Council's proposal, will continue in the coming months.

51 Main St. could open post-Spring Break

By Anthony Adragna
NEWS EDITOR

The College hopes to offer several open houses for the as-yet-unnamed space at 51 Main St. before Spring Break, with a grand opening coming soon after students return, Dean of The College Tim Spears said.

Final designs for the space should arrive in the next couple of days and the College will order furnishings soon after. Items could take four to six weeks to arrive, enabling an opening soon after Spring Break.

Spears said the space will open up with its lead purpose of providing nighttime entertainment for students in mind.

"We will open as a bar and lounge on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights," he said. "The lead concept is a bar and lounge. We'll begin in a small way."

In addition to the bar and lounge aspect of the space, it will also function as a loca-

tion during the day for community events, designed to enable contact between the community and College. Additionally, the area will have a chocolate bar where high quality chocolate products will be available.

Several small "soft openings" will likely occur before Spring Break to expose the space.

"We want a couple of open houses so people in the community can look at the space before it opens," Spears said. "We hope to show the town what we've done with the space. We'll take it from there."

Spears said the establishment already has an employment model and will begin looking to fill the slots.

"We have a staffing model in mind," he said. "It's fairly lean right now. We'll have someone to manage the space and others to do the counter. We'll expand the staff as necessary."

Students will have the ability to have in-

put on the programming that takes place in the space.

"The programming that takes place during the nighttime will involve students," Spears said. "There's a timeline to get a group of students together in the next month or so."

Once completed, Spears hopes students will find the space inviting and very useful.

"I hope students will go down there to work," he said. "I hope the space will speak for itself. I think the furnishings will work well in the space. The space itself is fantastic."

Spears dismissed the notion that the establishment would hurt existing town businesses like the Two Brothers Lounge.

"We talked with people about this issue from the beginning," he said. "My sense, from talking with students is that they think the town can support two bars. Offering more options for students socially is never a bad thing."

public safety log

February 18 - February 25, 2008

| DATE | TIME | INCIDENT | CATEGORY | LOCATION | DISPOSITION |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| 2/18/2008 | Unknown | Theft | Cash | Starr | Open |
| 2/21/2008 | 12:00 a.m. | Theft | Van Bench Seat | Coffrin | Open |
| 2/22/2008 | Evening | Theft | Skis and Boots | Allen | Open |

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 11 alcohol citations between Feb. 18 and Feb. 25.

Cake to play Nelson spring concert April 19

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that Guster was a somewhat polarizing choice for the Spring Concert last year," he said. "In other words, some people love Guster while others really don't like them. With that in mind, we really wanted to bring a more unifying band to Middlebury."

Zrike added that since West Coast-based Cake rarely comes to the northeastern United States, the unique opportunity for students to see them perform played a large role in the decision, as did MCAB's wish to provide students with a different concert than in the recent past.

"I think Cake is different from past shows like J5, Wyclef and Guster," he said. "It is a different genre and offers a new style of music that the student body has not seen in the last five years. That is our goal as MCAB — we try to give the students a little bit of everything to try and satisfy as many people as possible."

The selection process also reflected the fruits of last year's merger between MCAB and the Inter-commons Council (ICC) under the umbrella name of MCAB. The merger allows groups such as MCAB, ICC and the College's radio station, WRMC 91.1 FM, to collaborate in an unprecedented way as part of a campus-wide music consortium. The sweeping changes saw a more diverse group

of students sitting on MCAB's Concert Committee, which in turn allowed for more diverse student participation in the programming process.

"Truly everyone has input on the committee," said Knif King '08, a member of both the WRMC Executive Board and the Concert Committee. "Everybody has its varying tastes on the committee, from hip-hop to Toby Keith."

More importantly, however, last year's

[Cake] is a different genre and offers a new style of music that the student body has not seen in the last five years.

—Bill Zrike '09

merger allowed the groups to consolidate funding reserves for the various other concerts held throughout the year, including WRMC's Sepomina and the spring festival Midd Mayhem. According to King, the new funding process leaves the music consortium with a lot of options for the rest of the year. It will specifically be a boon for WRMC, which will have much more money than in the past.

"People have complained about the

bands WRMC has brought in before, but there weren't many other options with the budget we've had in the past," King said. So, the prospects are exciting both for WRMC getting more money and for collaboration to happen on the board. Having one huge Committee really makes things work, because we can plan out our spring together."

King added that the committee felt like it could get more of a consensus behind a Cake performance. It did not know until

either Midd Mayhem or WRMC's Sepomina. Zrike agreed that the new budget gives the groups much more flexibility.

"I am in favor of this larger budget because it gives both MCAB and WRMC the possibility to put on more concerts than in previous years," he said. "This combined budget gives us the possibility to put on more smaller shows in the Gifford Annex, Pearsons Lounge, Coltrane, etc., as well as put on shows of larger magnitude like in Nelson, Pen and Kenyon."

Cake, based in Sacramento, Calif., is best known for two mid-90's albums, *Fashion Nugget* in 1996 and *Prolonging the Magic* in 1998, which produced the hit singles "The Distance" and "Never there," as well as a cover of Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive." Though it is often classified as alternative rock or indie rock, Cake's music combines multiple other music genres, including pop, funk, rap and even country.

The Concert Committee has yet to determine who will open for Cake on April 19, but Morrill is nonetheless thrilled about the potential for this year's Spring Concert.

"Personally, I'm more excited for Cake than I've ever been for any of the other Kenyon shows," he said.

Terrace, lounge close Mar. 10

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

place. The combination, however, of Atwater, Ross, and FIC should provide sufficient room for all students at mealtimes, according to Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette.

Redfield, the faculty dining space above Proctor, may be closed altogether rather than relocated during renovation.

"If the new building is completed in 2009,"



File Photo/Marie Horbar

Radical changes to Proctor begin March 10.

Biette said, "Proctor's service area will change locations, but the central dining room will not. The dining area will be redesigned as a swing space to be conducive to parties. The new dining hall will still be devoted to the 'make-your-own' feel of Proctor. We will have panini presses and a well-stocked salad bar."

The open design of the new building would most likely allow for more seating because the tables could be more efficiently organized in the space.

Proctor Hall Dining Room Servery Supervisor William Saunders talked about the effects of the renovation on the Proctor staff.

"If the second step of the renovation is approved, my working location will change," said Saunders. "I will still be working, but probably in one of the other dining halls, perhaps at Freeman International Center when they open that up. I doubt that the first step of the renovation will affect my working schedule."

JoAnna DeGray, a member of the Proctor dining staff, said that the second step of Proctor's renovation will not affect her work hours.

"It's not going to affect me that much because I already work at Atwater, so I'm just going to add more hours there," said DeGray. "But I don't know any details about the renovation."

Many students are concerned about the closing of Proctor.

"I am disheartened," said Jake Cohen '08. "Proctor is like the crown on our campus. To lose it for a year is to lose our royalty."

According to Biette, renovation plans are subject to change if and when they are approved.

middbrief

by Anthony Adragna
News Editor

Ross Dining Hall refurbishes interior

Ross Dining Hall replaced its tables in a move that occurred during February Break.

The decision to replace the tables stemmed from concerns about the portability of the old ones, Ross Commons Dining Manager Brent Simons said.

"With the increase of student events in the dining room the older tables were found to be too cumbersome to move without difficulty," Simons said. "The new tables are the same as Atwater Dining which are much more portable."

Furnishings and Communications Specialist Julie Hoyenski said the dining hall suffered damage from the old furniture and many were concerned about possible injuries.

"The heavy chairs were also doing considerable damage to the wood floor," she said. "The larger tables were very heavy, and there was also some concern about the potential for injury to students and staff trying to move them."

Going along with the changes, the chairs surrounding the tables will be replaced in the coming weeks.

"We will be receiving new chairs as well," Simons said. "Ross has seen a tremendous amount of customer traffic since it's opening and the old chairs are quite worn out."

Once complete, the new seating arrangement should allow more students to eat at once time.

"The new capacity is 304," Hoyenski said, an increase from a previous capacity of 275. "The table sizes and layout were devised by the hospitality design firm 'Ricca Newmark Design' to maximize seating in Ross. This layout was also designed to improve traffic flow."

The tables are the same shape and size as those currently in Atwater Dining Hall and the color selection came from Hoyenski.

Hoyenski said the color decision came from a desire to minimize the visibility of food waste. "We strive to use patterned tabletop laminates, because solid colors show dirt and food debris more readily," she said. "I am confident that the look of table tops will be enhanced by the new chairs."

Funds for the tables came from a different area than funding for food and supplies.

"This was a capital budget expense and in no way affected our food or glassware budget," Simons said. "The shortage of funds in the glassware and china budget is due to a constant replacement of these items."

Representatives from Dining Services, Facilities Services and the Ross Commons Administration formed a group who helped make the selections. Several Ross students present on campus in the summer during the decision-making process were also consulted.

Council approves KDR, Delta recommendations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the house, Angelini replied that Delta had not yet selected a specific member to conduct oversight, but that such a move is planned.

Angelini said that Delta was committed to engaging in a dialogue with Facilities Services about avoiding damage to whatever facility Delta is able to occupy, and that the house's leadership has proposed a discipline board to oversee residential members. The board would have a formal role and the ability to demand both community service and the payment of fines, among other penalties, from individuals. Omega Alpha is the only other social house to have a formal discipline board.

Council member Doug Adams com-

mended the Delta plan, saying that "Delta's (discipline board) is the strongest structure to be laid out."

After unanimously approving a recommendation that Delta recover its residential standing and return to Prescott House, the Council discussed the approval of KDR as a social house for the upcoming year. Glidden released the Subcommittee on Social Houses' stipulations regarding an approval of KDR. The subcommittee's recommendation included a demand that KDR lower the annual damage to its house to under \$750. The report pointed out that much of KDR's damage fee stems from its annual pig roast, and the report requested that KDR meet with the Inter-House Council (IHC) before the pig roast to discuss the planning of the

event. Glidden said that the subcommittee's intention is not to encourage any IHC micro-management of KDR's pig roast, but rather to foster a discussion between IHC members and KDR that would confirm that adequate planning had been done in preparation for the affair in order to reduce the likelihood of damage.

"I think reducing dorm damage is completely feasible. We'll do what we need to do," said KDR member Nicole MacMillan '09.

Before the Council signaled its approval of KDR, Council member and SGA President Max Nardini '08 praised the final report. "I think this looks great," said Nardini. "It acknowledges that IHC is equipped to provide further consultation. It provides concrete things that we can look back at."

Social house review results 2007-2008

Xenia: approved

The Mill: approved

Omega Alpha: approved

Kappa Delta Rho: approved, but must reduce dorm damage to below \$750

Delta: recommended for full reinstatement, provided that the house revises its leadership and discipline structure



courtesy

child labor in *Hine's* sight

vignettes of child labor in early 20th century America

by andrea glaessner, local news editor

The distant and vacant eyes of the six-year-old "Newsie in Snow Pathos" bear no marked difference from a pair on the face of any bored and restless kindergartener. But in the context of the Henry Sheldon Museum's current photography exhibit entitled "Let Children Be Children: Lewis Wickes Hine's Crusade Against Child Labor," Newsie's eyes are a window to the dark industrial underworld of early 20th century America — a place where child labor and the deplorable conditions they lived and worked in were acceptable, even encouraged, by American standards.

Newsie's eyes, cold and clear in black and white, leave the viewer trembling with a sense of loss at what children in the industrial revolution were forced to give up. Childhood, dignity, opportunity, health and safety were some of the sacrifices children made to support their families during a time when progress and economic achievement were prioritized above justice and social welfare.

It was only through the photographic journey of Lewis Wickes Hine, a sociologist with an artist's eye, that Americans opened their own eyes to the child labor movement and created legislation to stop it. And it is those same photographs that create the context for discussion and thought today about child labor then and now, and where we stand in the fight.

"There are so many issues here that can be discussed, both historical and contemporary, which makes it more powerful," explained Mary Manley, assistant director of the Henry Sheldon Museum, her eyes brimming with excitement, "this has been a great stepping off point — we've had talks, school groups, a concert and there are more programs coming up."

The idea for the photography exhibition came from the book "Counting on Grace" by Elizabeth Winthrop, selected for last year's Vermont Reads program, a state-wide community reading program sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council. Susan Peden, education coordinator from the Henry Sheldon Museum, and Carol Chatfield, children's librarian at the Ilsley Library, coordinated and developed programming for the book in conjunction with the Mary Johnson Children's Center and participating schools.

The book takes the reader back to the days of child labor in the cotton mills of 1910 Vermont and was inspired by the photograph of Addie Card, a 12-year-old mill girl in Pownal, taken by Lewis Hine. Card's photograph can be found on display at the exhibition.

A lanky blonde pre-teen leans casually against a large, looming spinner. Her eyes, like Newsie's, are vacant and dark, wearing the signs

of exhaustion, and her limbs, long and slim, are cognizant of a lifetime of standing beside the spinner, working endless hours.

"We show art and history here [at the Museum] and this [exhibition has] both. It's considered fine art photography, but it's really photography with a purpose," said Manley, pointing to the image of Card.

Indeed, when Lewis Hine's niece and Middlebury resident Mary Williamson gave a talk at the Museum on Feb. 12 on family memories of "Uncle Lewie," she emphasized the fact that Hines was a photographer with a purpose, making a point that Hine was really a sociologist at heart.

"He was definitely a professional photographer, but the photos were taken through a sociologist's eye," said Manley. "It's not just a portrait of a kid. There is depth to it, you can look at the hands and faces and you can tell what they were doing and how rough it was for them. They're very rich in that way."

The soot-stained cheeks of the

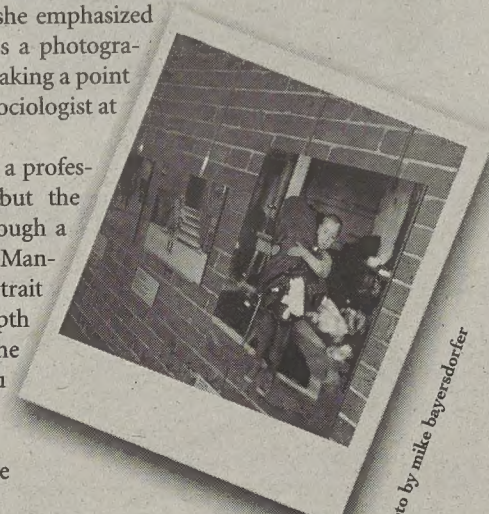
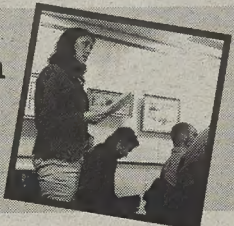


photo by mike bayardorfer

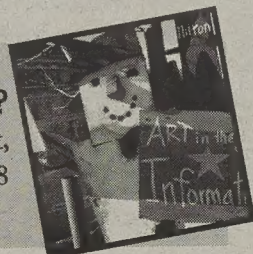
story continued on page 8...

Staples Under the Gun
Townfolk gather to discuss fate
of supply store's app,
page 7



Vermont Votes
It's time for VT to decide
between Hillary and Obama,
page 9

Igloo galleries?
Brandon hosts chilly arts event,
page 8



Town holds public hearing to assess Staples

By Tamara Hilmes
LOCAL NEWS EDITORS

Although Starbucks is no longer in the cards for Middlebury, Myron Hunt Associates is still expressing determination to bring another nationwide chain to town. Last Monday night, the Middlebury Development Review Board (DRB) and the townsfolk of Middlebury packed into the meeting room of Ilsley Library to discuss Myron Hunt Associates' application to build a 14,600-square-foot Staples store in the Centre shopping plaza next to Hannaford, a plan originally submitted in February of last year.

Christopher Hunt, the first to speak at the meeting, explained to the full house that although Starbucks was no longer an option, their proposed Staples project was still very much on the table.

"We are very excited for this proposal," Hunt said. "We think it is a good thing for this town."

Hunt's enthusiasm was echoed in a statement by John Tenney from Mill Bridge Construction — construction consultant for Myron Hunt — expressing his support for the project.

"I support the application because I believe Middlebury will benefit from it," said Tenney. "It will be a modest expansion of an existing retail location and will be in harmony with the spirit of town regulations. Retail sales growth in Middlebury has been lagging behind in Addison County, as well as compared to those of Rutland. The greater selection of goods and products brought by Staples will help stop Middlebury from losing retail sales to native markets."

The public hearing focused on three main issues regarding the proposed Staples project: traffic impact, economic impact and conformance with the town plan.

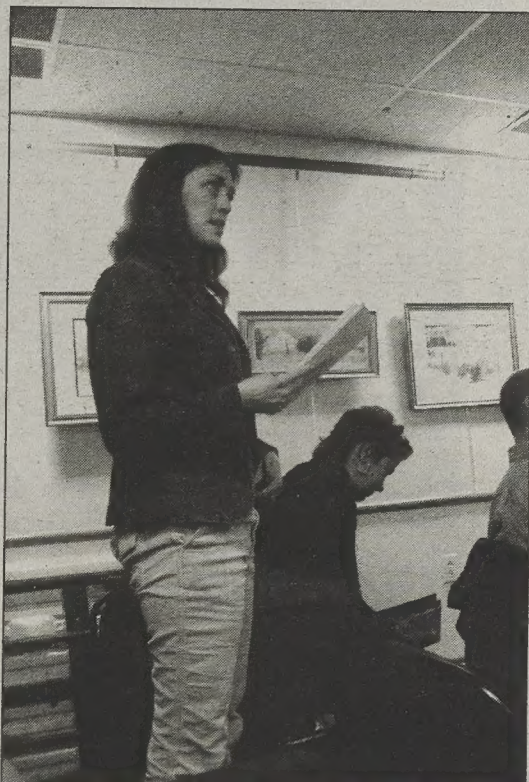
To address the issue of the impact that the proposed project would have on traffic along Court Street, Myron Hunt brought in David Dubay of Stantec, a traffic engineering and consulting firm. Richard Heaps of Northern Economic Consulting was also in attendance to present his analysis of the economic impact of the project on the town.

After the presentations were made on the project's potential traffic and economic impact, citizens were able to voice various concerns. The first concern brought to light was that the store's location would intensify the congestion of traffic along Court Street during school release hours. Dubay calmly reassured the public that this would certainly not be the case.

"At peak hours," explained Dubay, "we have a few things happening all at the same time. The school traffic would be one intersection away, however, and would not be affecting this one. There is no interaction between that traffic and that near the Hannaford driveway."

But many townspeople vehemently rejected the Stantec consultant's analysis, arguing that school traffic is certainly an issue in town.

"School traffic does back up to [the Han-



Tamara Hilmes

Asst. Professor of Economics Meyers speaks.

naford] intersection," said Bill Nelson, a resident of Middlebury. "I have even seen it back up to the Village Green. I get stuck in it every day."

Tenney did his best to quell the concern of the crowd by assuring the public that the company is currently in conversation with the various schools in town to discuss the possibility of staggering school release times to prevent heavy congestion at certain times during the day.

Turning to a new topic, Heaps began his presentation to discuss the economic impact that the addition of Staples would have on the economic vitality of downtown Middlebury.

Putting to rest citizen's fears that Staples would be a large-scale big-box store, crushing small local businesses, Heaps explained that the size proposed for the Middlebury Staples is actually the smaller of the two store sizes that Staples typically builds.

According to Heaps, the Middlebury store would actually be smaller than both the Rutland and South Burlington locations already in existence.

"This Staples would have a small payroll and would be operating in a small part of the retail sector," Heaps explained.

Heaps went on to demonstrate how the Staples would essentially leave a net positive impact on the town of the Middlebury. The addition of Staples, according to the economic model used in his analysis, would create 18 new jobs in Middlebury — 17 on-site, and one additional job not at Staples. The population of the town would also increase, according to Heaps. An additional three people will be living in Middlebury by 2018 with the addition of a Staples store should his model of analysis prove accurate.

"There is only one measure of economic vitality that is publicly available," said Heaps, "and they all show that things are growing in

town, even though it may not seem like it. The downtown is reasonably healthy, especially when compared to other historic downtowns."

Several members of the public, however, seemed skeptical of Heaps' perception of their town's economic health.

"I have no business sense whatsoever," said Middlebury resident Caroline Donning as she rose to speak to the board. "I'm just going to throw that out there. But I do want to talk a little about what common sense is telling me."

Donning went on to create a metaphor between young children pulling the legs off a daddy long-legs and seeing how far it can walk and the effects that she believes a Staples store would have on other smaller businesses in Middlebury.

"The spider still operates," said Donning, "just not as good as it did with eight. But how many legs do you pull off before the whole thing begins to wobble? This is what I like to call the 'slow suck' of business away from existing stores."

Other citizens also expressed concern regarding the impact of the corporate chain on already-existing businesses.

Margaret Thom, co-owner of Main St. Stationery along with her husband, gave a heart-felt speech about the impact that she fears the office supply store will have on her already fragile business.

"Staples has already been here a long time," said Thom. "On any given morning you will see the Staples truck in Middlebury making deliveries. We've made that accommodation. But now they say they want the walk-in, which is the only leg of the spider

that we have left. When Staples is already serving our area and they now decide that they want more, it feels as though we've just entered the undue adverse effect."

Thom finished amidst the applause of her fellow concerned townspeople.

"We have had seven legs plucked already," Thom finished. "It looks like Myron Hunt will have people leasing their buildings, and Staples will see their trucks on Route 7, but we will be left with an even more fragile downtown economy and a weakened town plan."

Although Heaps explained that other small stationery stores in towns like Rutland and Bennington have managed to coexist with the Staples that have been built in their communities, citizens of Middlebury still expressed some doubt.

Michelle Fey, who was chosen to speak on behalf of several worried citizens, did not approve of Middlebury being compared to other Vermont towns as a means of determining the town's economic status.

"The analysis that was presented seems like one small data sample," Fey said, "and I don't see how it applies to us. It is difficult to compare Middlebury to Rutland and other towns with Staples because the Middlebury economy is

very dependent on visitors. Because of Middlebury's reliance on tourism, it is important that we maintain the vitality of the downtown."

After further discussion, the board recessed the hearing until a later time, at which the issues raised during Monday's hearing would be addressed in more detail. Town Planner Fred Dunnington predicts that the next round of hearings will occur sometime in March.

Now they want the walk-in, which is the only leg of the spider that we have left.

—Margaret Thom

localvoice

interview with Danielle Boyce, manager of American Flatbread

Restaurant owner donates profits to Frost house

The Middlebury Campus: What inspired you to do this particular Benefit Bake? Was there a particular person or group who asked you to help raise the money or was it an individual decision? If it was an individual decision, what was it that made you believe it was a cause worth fundraising for?

Danielle Boyce: George Schenk (owner of Flatbread) had come to me with this idea once he heard about the vandalism that occurred at the Homer Noble Farm. He felt that it was important to show our support during this time as a way of acknowledging our thanks to Middlebury College for being stewards for such a fine community landmark, and I agreed wholeheartedly.

MC: Do you have some kind of personal story or experience related to Robert Frost? Do you enjoy his poetry and legacy?

DB: I'm not sure about George, but Robert Frost has been my favorite poet since I was in the fifth grade. His poetry was always somewhat of an escape for me. One of my best friends bought me my first book of poetry in, I think, it was the seventh grade — Robert Frost! You can imagine how thrilled I was to discover that I moved to the area where he used to summer!

MC: How do you come up with most of the ideas for the Benefit Bakes?

DB: Each year we choose 6 or so causes. I meet different people through the Chamber of Commerce, and through working in the restaurant. I also receive requests on a

rolling basis. We try to stick to education, community, food, and non-profit organizations. Each year we do "Organic Food for Public Schools" where 8 schools in the supervisory union are selected to receive a portion of the \$8/flatbread donation.

MC: How was the turnout on Saturday night? Were any of the customers there on Saturday particularly for the fundraiser or were most just there to eat?

DB: The turnout was great! We sold 170 flatbreads to 292 people, and yes, many of the folks who joined us that night were here because they supported the cause.

MC: How much money was raised for the Frost summer home and who or which organization did it go to?

DB: We raised \$680 — this is going towards the preservation efforts of Homer Noble Farm which the College is stewarding.

MC: Did any of the specials that night correspond with the theme for the Benefit Bake?

DB: I wouldn't say so.

MC: Any future benefit bakes we should look out for?

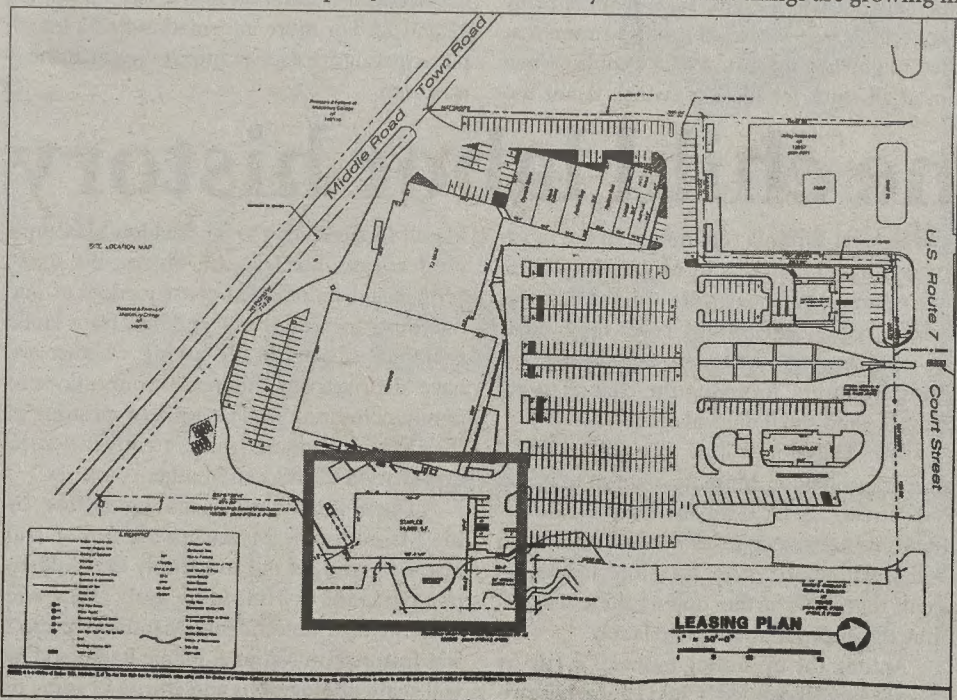
DB:

March 15 — John Graham Emergency Shelter

April 12 — WomenSafe

Sept. 13 — Middlebury Farmers' Market

Interview by Andrea Glaessner, Local News Editor



Courtesy

The proposed plan, above, will place a 14,600 sq. ft. store in the Centre Plaza by Hannaford.

local lowdown

your source for upcoming
events in the community

Green Energy Expo

On March 1 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., local homeowners, businesses, farmers and forestland owners with an eye toward a "green" future will convene in the College's own McCardell Bicentennial Hall for the 2008 Addison County Green Energy Expo: Building Sustainable Homes & Businesses. The day-long series of workshops, exhibits and demonstrations will be aimed at the "exchange [of] green energy practices and power," and feature plenty of door prizes and local food. For more information, call (802) 388-7951, or visit the organization's website at <http://www.greenenergyexpo.biz>.



Chris Smither in Middlebury

The After Dark Music Series will conclude for the season on March 1 with a 7 p.m. performance by singer-songwriter Chris Smither at the United Methodist Church in Middlebury. Smither — a Florida-born folk and blues singer and guitarist — draws heavily on the work of modern poets and philosophers in formulating his eclectic style. Tickets to the show are \$18 in advance, and \$20 at the door. Light meals, dessert and beverages will be available one hour prior to the show. For more information, call (802) 388-0216, or visit <http://www.afterdarkmusicseries.com>.

Community Gathering for Yoga

For all those interested in learning how to contort their limbs into the Half Lord of the Fishes stance, reaching Moksha, or simply letting off some mid-semester steam, Otter Creek Yoga in the Marble Works is ready and willing to lend you a hand (or a Raised Hands Pose, as it were) on March 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. when it holds its monthly gathering for yoga, meditation and recitation of the Five Mindfulness Trainings of Thich Nhat Hanh. Beginners, Otter Creek says, are "warmly welcomed." For more information, call (802) 388-1961.

Cross Country Ski on the Norske Trail

On March 1, the Green Mountain Club — whose mission since 1910 has been to preserve the Long Trail system — will embark upon a "moderate to difficult" three-mile cross country ski expedition on the Bread Loaf section of the Norske Trail. Water and snacks are a must. To learn the time and further details, call (802) 388-6678.

Ripton Community Coffee House

Warm up after your cross country skiing adventure on March 1 at 7:30 p.m. when the Ripton Community House holds an open mike night, followed by a performance by singer-songwriter Kathleen Pemble, winner of the New York City Song Slam. According to a review of a recent performance in *The New York Times*, when "Ms. Pemble started singing ... the ambient noise in the cafe disappeared as if by magic." Tickets are \$7 for adults, and refreshments are included. For more information, call (802) 388-9782.

Brandon art community thrives

By Kelly Janis
LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

For watercolorist John Hoare — who, along with dozens of other artists, showcased his art in Brandon, Vt. this weekend — the old stone farmhouse in which he lived for years on the tiny Greek island of Paros was, by the artist's own account, a natural incubator of artistic talent.

"There's no electricity, no running water, no television," Hoare said. "What the hell else are you supposed to do?"

When developers began to encroach upon the land, however, Hoare discovered that his quaint lifestyle could not be sustained.

"They trashed our island," he said. "They built bars and put up fillers. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot."

It was then that Hoare and his wife Linda Hickox-Hoare — also an artist, with a flair for pet portraits — left in search of a new setting in which to live and work.

"Enough was enough," he said.

It was a pursuit which, ultimately, landed them in Vermont.

"These are some of the most beautiful landscapes on the planet," Hoare said. "They are just pristine and fabulous. If you're a visual person, this is the place you want to be."

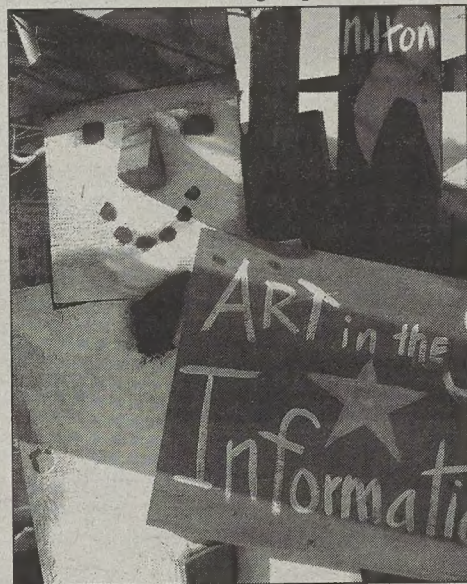
Since their arrival, the couple has thoroughly capitalized upon the scenes in their midst.

"My wife likes to paint the sunset sometimes, just when it's dipping behind the hills," Hoare said, gazing out the window of the historic Brandon Inn at the snow-covered town green. "Sometimes, I'll sit on the back porch — even in the winter — and just do little studies of the trees behind our house, with the light falling on them, and the beautiful blue-grey shadows across the snow."

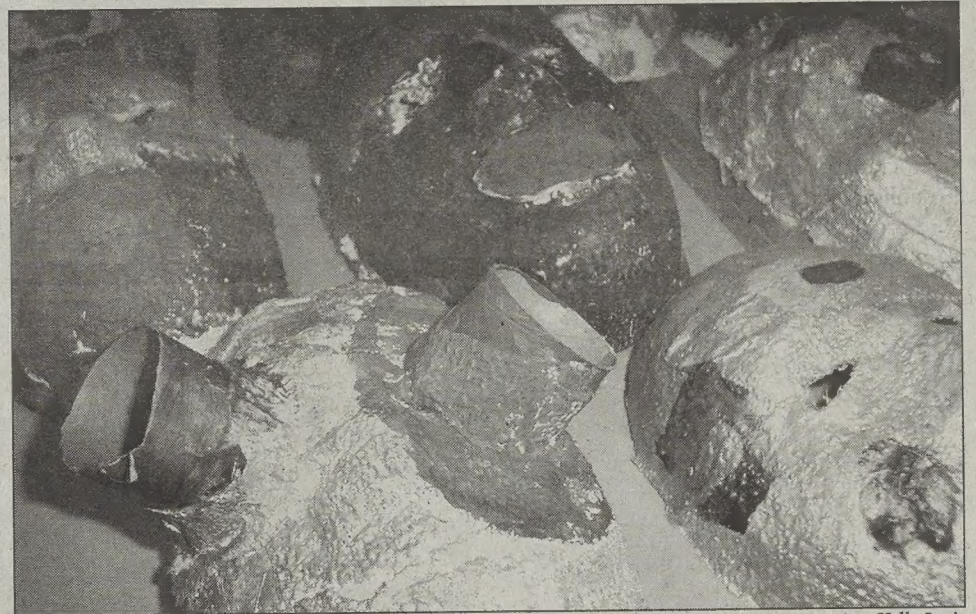
Although he regards his most notable claim to fame to be "surviving 12 years as a substitute teacher in a public high school with a last name like Hoare," the artist has amassed his fair share of craft-related achievements.

While he characterizes some of them as peculiar — "a bank in Middlebury bought a pile of pieces for their computer room," Hoare said, "and the manager picked out some stuff I had done on the spot up on Brandon Gap of the beaver pond" — others are of a decidedly more sentimental nature.

On one occasion, a group of siblings ap-



Snowmen mark participating artistic venues.



Kelly Janis

Masks crafted by local elementary school students are on display at the Brandon Artists' Guild.

proached Hoare to request that he paint a portrait of the since-bulldozed dairy farm on which they had grown up as a gift for their aging father.

"They brought me these old Polaroid photographs of the place as it used to be," Hoare said. "And I thought, oh my God, how am I going to do this?"

Hoare went to work reconstructing the farm, remaining faithful to the images presented to him while imbuing the work with his own personal touches. "I stuck a couple of cows into the trees," he said. "I had fun with it."

The result struck a powerful chord with the man for whom it was intended.

"They gave it to him at Christmas and he was absolutely delighted," Hoare said. "He said it was exactly what it looked like."

An array of Hoare's other works were exhibited this weekend when he joined like-minded painters, potters, jewelers, sculptors, photographers, rug hookers and folk, fabric and glass artists in throwing open the doors of their studios and galleries in conjunction with the Fourth Annual Art in the Snow Winter Weekend Celebration in Brandon, an approximately 4,000-person town which, according to event organizers, is often referred to as "the art and soul of Vermont," given the breadth of its artistic offerings.

"It's pretty major," said Joan Curtis, who, alongside specializing in papier-mâché, has worked extensively with acrylic paint and colored pencils. "It's a vital community."

Sudbury bead artist Chris Naylor agreed. "People move here specifically to do art, because they walked in and felt the energy," she said.

For Curtis, the event was an opportunity to showcase works in progress.

"The fun part of papier-mâché is that I can keep expanding," she said, prodding a wire-framed structure on a table in the foyer of her home. "This is totally spontaneous. I don't know quite what I'm doing yet. But I plan to."

Curtis leafed through a thick binder she described as a cross between a sketchbook and scrapbook.

"I collect pictures and little bits of writing that appeal to me," she said. "They're really like scribbles, so they mean things to me that they might not mean to other people. When I'm at all stuck for ideas — which is not too

often, quite honestly — I'll go back through my books and spend a little time with them, and things start to pop up again. One thing evolves into another."

This evolution occurs not only from one piece to another, but between artists and those they introduce to their crafts. Cornwall multimedia artist Klara Calitri is well-attuned to this notion, having spent the weekend instructing visitors to the Brandon Artists' Guild in the art of ceramics.

When Calitri asked observers to decorate porcelain shapes she had produced, "they said 'oh I can't, I can't.' But they did a nice job," she said.

Calitri — who also paints and does monotypes — said the variety of mediums with which she works prevents her from becoming bored.

"It's hard to jump from one thing to another, but it keeps you interested, and there's a cross-relation between them," she said. "My ceramics is really influenced by my paintings."

Alongside the artists, Brandon's restaurants and merchants were equally vital contributors to the event. Carr's Florist, for instance, offered a "Van Gogh in the Snow" Sunflower Special, while Sully's Restaurant featured Monet's "Bridge over a Pool of Water Lilies" in the form of herb and garlic haddock.

Meanwhile, the town throbbed with live music and karaoke, including a Saturday night performance by The Doughboys — a local rock band whose members include Associate Professor of Mathematics and Faculty Co-Head of Ross Commons Steve Abbott, Associate Professor of American Studies and Faculty Co-Head of Wonnacott Commons Will Nash, Associate Professor of Computer Science Daniel Scharstein, Associate Professor of Psychology Carlos Velez and Associate Professor of Music Peter Hamlin — at the Ball and Chain Café.

"It's a nice thing to do in the middle of winter," Hoare said. "You meet all of these people, and they're all good fun. In all of the years we've done this, I've accepted checks from people from all over the country, and not a single one has bounced."

Art in the Snow will hold its third and final weekend celebration of the year on March 22 and 23. For more information and a list of participating artists, visit <http://www.artinthesnow.com>.

Photos frame child labor history

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

"breaker boys" and the black barefeet of "newsies" and "bootblacks" echo Manley's sentiment. The photographs do not hide the mud-covered hands and sandy toes of five-year-old Manuel the shrimp picker, and the words culled from Hine's own notes and printed on the label bring the figure to life: "Manuel, the young shrimp-picker, 5 yrs. old and a mountain of child labor/oyster shells left behind him. He worked last year, understands not a word of English."

Hine's photographs are vignettes of child labor across the nation, from the Long Island potato diggers, to the newsies roosting on Manhattan street corners, to the sooty breaker

boys in West Virginia coal mines, to the mud-covered oyster shuckers in Mississippi, to the little spinner in Pownal, Vt., to the families huddled around the dining room table shelling nuts, sewing suspenders and assembling artificial flowers, forsaking the chance to get outdoors and smell the real ones.

The exhibition will be up until April 5 at the Henry Sheldon Museum right in town on Park Street, across from the Ilsey Public Library and next to Leatherworks. In addition to the exhibition, there are more upcoming events that allow further opportunities to continue the dialogue about child labor.

Among the upcoming events is a talk by Cheryl Mitchell entitled "Child Labor: Historical Issue or Current Problem?" scheduled for

March 11. According to the Sheldon Museum's press release, the talk will discuss the inadvertent and unintended consequences of our "attempts to protect our children from labor exploitation" specifically asking whether we have "deprived our children of connections to family, community, and a sense of meaning in their lives" or perhaps "inadvertently increased exploitation of children in other countries."

There is also an upcoming lecture by Joe Manning, the Massachusetts author and historian who set out to identify the children photographed by Hine in the early 1900s, and to locate their descendants. Manning's project was featured on National Public Radio and he will share photographs and stories of some of Hine's subjects in his talk on March 9.

Vermonters gear up for upcoming primary

By Derek Schlickeisen
FOCUS EDITOR

Senators Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton have begun lavishing money and attention on tiny Vermont in the lead-up to the Democratic primary here on March 4. With Republican Senator John McCain commanding a prohibitive lead in the race for his party's nomination, the state's television and radio waves have been dominated by advertisements from the Clinton and Obama campaigns.

The race in Vermont

In the wake of 11 straight losses, observers say Clinton is merely looking to hold down Obama's margin of victory in the state while concentrating on the delegate-rich Texas and Ohio primaries — also held on March 4 — as a means of erasing the Illinois senator's lead in pledged delegates. Recent polls of likely primary voters show her trailing in Vermont by as much as 25 percent.

"The state is tailor-made for Obama," said Professor of Political Science Matthew Dickinson. "Likely Democratic voters are very progressive, and Obama is generally viewed as the most liberal member of the Senate. Clinton's strength is among more traditional Democratic voters [with] lower income and education levels. There aren't as many of those voters here in Vermont."

Dickinson also noted that the Vermont Democratic Party's open primary system, which allows independents and Republicans to participate, will likely allow Obama to attract the type of crossover voters who have supported his candidacy in the past.

In addition to the favorable demographic landscape, Obama's fundraising lead (he raised \$32 million in January, to Clinton's \$13.5 mil-

lion) allowed him to open a campaign office and begin advertising well in advance of his opponent. Obama has also benefited from free radio play of "Yes We Can," a tribute song produced by Black Eyed Peas member Will.I.Am, on several "Top 40" stations in the state.

"Obama has been hitting the airwaves more heavily than Clinton with advertising, and his ground campaign is better organized," Dickinson explained. "Clinton's organization is late getting started, and she is only beginning to run campaign ads."

Despite her opponent's advantages, however, Clinton is ceding nothing in a state whose 16 delegates — awarded proportionally based roughly on each candidate's percent of the popular vote — will matter greatly given Obama's razor-thin lead of only 85 delegates in the race for the nomination. Her campaign opened its own office in South Burlington this week, and on Tuesday announced the support of former Gov. Madeleine Kunin and State House Speaker Gaye Symington.

Obama has been endorsed by Rep. Peter Welch and Sen. Patrick Leahy, as well as "Ben & Jerry's" co-founders Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield.

Students on the trail

An unlikely scenario — that the nomination is still being closely contested at this late date — has given students at the College an opportunity to make an impact in the race.

"Vermont is a small state, with a homogenous population," said Dickinson. "It almost has the feel of a caucus state. This allows for more grassroots organization, which rewards intensity of preference."

This ground-level organizing, which has been a strength of the Obama campaign in

the past, is part of the draw for Middlebury students like Emily Gullickson '10, President of the College Democrats and who is helping to coordinate support for Obama here at the College.

"The grassroots structure of politics in Vermont is more suited for the style and tone of Obama's campaign," she said. "The presence of the youth vote, one of Obama's strongest constituencies, at Middlebury and UVM probably helped support for him catch on early and grow stronger throughout the primary season."

Gullickson hastened to add, however, that while many of the students who volunteered did so for Obama, Clinton has also enjoyed the support of a vocal minority.

"We have anywhere from 10 to 15 members at any given meeting, but closer to 25 members overall who have been active in a campaign," she said. "The majority of the group members are Obama supporters, but Hillary is not without a voice. I think any member of the group will tell you that there is a lot to be proud of in the Democratic Party right now."

Antoinette Rangel '09 has been one Clinton's strongest voices on campus. The active College Democrats member volunteered with Clinton's campaign over the summer and was a panelist at a Feb. 20 student forum on the primaries.

"I believe that Hillary has the experience to lead starting on day one," said Rangel. "Over the years she has been a champion for a lot of what I believe in, namely improving our education as well as defending women's rights. She also has been an advocate for mandatory universal healthcare, which I believe is needed in America."

Over, but not out

Dickinson and other analysts now say that former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, the only challenger to McCain yet to drop out of the Republican race, has no plausible path to an upset victory. Vermont and its 17 delegates to the GOP convention, however, may still have a role to play in the race.

"Huckabee is irrelevant at this point," said Dickinson. "There's no state out there that he can win outright now, except perhaps Mississippi. But McCain should clinch [the 1,191 necessary delegates] before then. He may even do so on March 4, thanks to Vermont."

With the competitive portion of the GOP primary now over, College Republicans President Heather Pangle '10 said that her organization and its dozen active members will likely save their energy for the general election.

"Most of the membership supported Romney, but now that he's dropped out, the majority are backing McCain," she said. "We have no plans as yet to do any campaigning for the Vermont primary, but we will probably be active in some manner for McCain in the fall when the national contest has taken off."

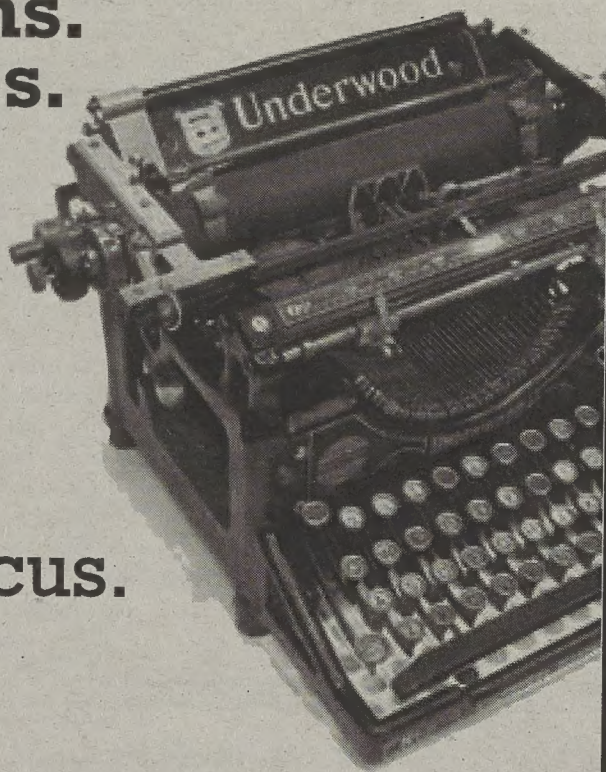
In case you were wondering

With Texas and Ohio looming much larger than Vermont (and Rhode Island, which also holds its primary on March 4), none of the major candidates from either party has made an appearance in the Green Mountain state. While the Clinton campaign is weighing sending former First Daughter Chelsea to the state, even those plans remain tentative.

The trend is nothing new, however — George W. Bush has visited 49 states as president. Vermont is number 50.

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editorial

The staff editorial represents the official opinion of The Middlebury Campus as decided by the Editorial Board.

Loss of Proctor Lounge a blow

For diehard fans of the Proctor Woodstove Lounge, the news of impending renovations to the aging but oddly beloved dining hall is a harsh blow. Proctor as a whole has long held a reputation as a polarizing force on campus, generating strong responses from students either enamored of or disgusted with the dining hall. The lounge especially epitomizes this polarizing dynamic.

But for many students, the lounge, and in good weather Proctor's pockmarked but expansive terrace, have long offered a much-needed alternative to the bustling interior of the College's main dining halls. Though the lounge's devotees are a dedicated minority, the space has almost effortlessly achieved what Middlebury administrators so often clamor for in social spaces. The lounge functions simultaneously as a dining hall, a meeting space, a study hall and a cozy students' living room. Students gather to read *The New York Times*, catch up on the latest campus gossip, cram for their next classes or enjoy a leisurely meal. In the fall and spring, the terrace has been a wonderful showcase for student musicians. Almost effortlessly — without the glitz and glamour of a new student nightclub, perhaps — the lounge has played an invaluable role in the social lives of many a Middlebury student.

We hope that, as the College forges ahead with the renovation of Proctor Dining Hall, the Dining Services, Facilities and commons teams will make concerted efforts to create makeshift spaces that will fill the void this change will leave in the Proctor dining experience. A gesture as small as moving the lounge's shabby, endearing and trademark couches and booths to an alternative location would be much appreciated. (The loft dining space in the main dining hall or the open space in the dining hall's basement would both be potential new venues.) We encourage students, too, to actively seek out or create the types of spaces that the lounge has long embodied. Fare thee well, Proctor lounge. We loved thee well.

Time for dramatic aid change

Last week's news about the 2008-2009 projected comprehensive fee was, admittedly, expected — predictable even. The annual hike is difficult to stomach, particularly as Middlebury's price tag creeps towards the daunting \$50,000 mark. But the steady march towards a cool 50k seems inevitable.

Though last week's news was expected, we're ready for unexpected news from College administrators when it comes to financial aid. We can and we must do more to make college affordable to everyone. The good news, of course, is that the Middlebury Initiative — that fundraising force too often demonized by students — holds at its heart a commitment to providing generous student aid. That said, we'd like to see a more dramatic push for charitable funding. It's time for Middlebury to follow in the footsteps of the colleges and universities we call our peers. Let's open those pursestrings.

corrections

The pullout quote in the Feb. 21 article, "College to join rating system based on sustainability," was mistakenly attributed to Jack Byrne, when it should have been attributed to Austin Davis, Sustainability Assistant. Additionally, this article was written by staff writer Andrew Fuller, not Cloe Shasha. The Feb. 21 article "Synergy II synthesizes social groups" was mistakenly attributed to staff writer Denizhan Duran. The article was, in fact, written by Patrick Jobson.

The Campus regrets these errors.

contact the campus

To contact The Middlebury Campus Publications with story tips or content suggestions, e-mail: campus@middlebury.edu

or find us on the web at:
www.middleburycampus.com



Columnist illustrations by Christina Spencer

Cartoon by Sam Dakota Milller

Letters to the editor

To the Editor:

This week, Brown University did away with tuition for students whose families make less than \$60,000 a year and increased financial aid, and most importantly replaced student loans with grants across the board. This is an impressive commitment to socio-economic diversity considering Brown's endowment sits at around \$2.2 billion, much less than that of Harvard, Princeton and Stanford, who have made similar moves recently. Furthermore, Brown's endowment is only slightly more than twice the endowment of Middlebury College, not a huge leap. With a \$500 million capital campaign underway and elite institutions across the country increasing financial aid packages and even doing away with tuition altogether, I think it's time we seriously reconsider what it takes to be a student at Middlebury. For years I have heard the grumblings of students about socioeconomic diversity and financial aid at Middlebury. Unfortunately, not much has changed since when I

matriculated and Middlebury was generally ill-reputed among elite liberal arts colleges for its financial packages and generally difficult financial aid office.

Sincerely,
Austen Levihn-Coon '08

To the Editor:

In response to last week's editorial "Why 'Let's Talk About Sex' succeeds where symposia fail," MCAB Speakers Committee would like to clarify our role in bringing speakers to campus. When MCAB was restructured for the 2007-2008 academic year, a Speakers Committee was created in order to fund student and club-sponsored lectures and to select and fund symposia.

As clarification the MCAB Speakers Committee does not propose symposia — it is a group that helps students navigate the logistics of organizing and planning a symposium. The Speakers Committee is a resource for students as it helps students bring speakers to campus. We have supported many diverse events including film screenings,

lectures and panels.

Symposia, by their very nature, must draw on the College's academic resources. "Let's Talk About Sex" focused on social and health related concerns, and the result was an informative month that encouraged students to talk about important issues. MCAB Speakers Committee is proud of "Let's Talk About Sex's" success and recognizes the importance of supporting events that facilitate dialogue between students, student groups and the community at large.

We hold open meetings on Monday at 5:45 in the Crest Room Conference Room in McCullough. We encourage all interested students to attend, and are currently taking speaker requests and applications for those who want to take part in diversifying speakers on campus. Look out for the upcoming spring symposium on water conflicts and issues, beginning March 31.

Sincerely,
MCAB Speakers Committee

campus policies and information

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Monday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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notes from the desk: Tamara Hilmes Reevaluate the Financial Aid

The pay period passes, and I receive yet another e-mail reminding me to turn in my time sheet and, like always, I ignore it. Even if I were to painstakingly enter all of the hours that I rack up each week as a Peer Writing Tutor while attending training sessions and meeting with students, I still would not get paid a dime more than I would otherwise. Why? Because despite all its friendly pretenses, the Middlebury College Financial Aid Office has found a way to punish me for being a work study student who actually wants to work. Imagine that.

As a first-year last year, I happily accepted the \$1,750 of Federal Work-Study aid that Middlebury so kindly offered me in the "Award Package" section of my Banner-Web account. Upon my arrival on campus, I immediately went on the hunt for a job, when much to my surprise, the perfect job ended up finding me. I became a Collections Assistant at the Henry Sheldon Museum in town, one of the various establishments with whom the College has established an off-campus work-study relationship. I was thrilled — not only would I be able to repay my allocated work study fund, but I would do so by performing tasks that I found meaningful and worthwhile. Rather than sitting in the entrance of the gym or handing out programs before a

musical event, I was helping to put up fascinating exhibits and to handle century-old artifacts. I had the perfect employment setup — that is, until April rolled around.

In the spring of last year, the Financial Aid Office, as well as my boss at the museum informed me, that I could no longer work at the museum because I had reached my work-study quota. How could this have happened? I was extremely confused as my boss and I had adjusted my hours earlier in the year to prevent this very occurrence. In the end, I found out that, because I had held a second job on campus, that of Editor in Chief of the yearbook, the funds from both jobs had been drawing out of my work study fund and eventually draining it around the first week of April. I was devastated. I had lost my job at the museum because I had worked too hard. It seemed simply ridiculous.

When I returned this year as a sophomore, I was offered my old job at the museum, an opportunity that I jumped at. I was also asked by my former professor and advisor to become a Peer Writing Tutor, which I happily accepted, eager to help out first-year writers. About a week into the fall semester, I discovered that the same problem as last year was likely to occur if I continued to work both jobs. I went into the

Financial Aid Office to explain my situation and receive, I had hoped, some sort of help. Fat chance. The person I spoke to merely explained that if I wanted to earn more than the allocated \$1,750, then I would have to give up working at the Henry Sheldon and only work on campus. Of course, I rejected this plan. So as it stands now, I do not bother to fill out my Peer Writing Tutor time sheets, because I would rather keep my job at the museum than get paid to tutor.

My main beef with my situation is this — students who choose to work only on campus, regardless of whether or not they have work study, are allowed to do so on a relatively unlimited basis. They are allowed to earn as much as they want. I, however, a student receiving financial aid, am limited to my measly \$1,750 for the entire year, which, in reality, is simply not enough. It makes absolutely no sense, and I think that if the College would rethink its policies regarding off-campus work study, that a lot more students would be able to perform more meaningful jobs in order to support themselves financially while receiving their education — instead of having to perform tasks that, let's get serious, monkeys could probably do.

Tamara Hilmes '10 is a Local News editor from Lawrence, Kan.

heard on campus

Even a blind squirrel finds a nut sometimes.

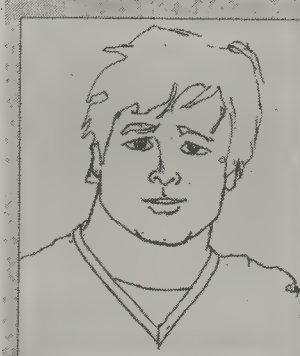
— Rob MacIntyre '08 in reference to being a hockey defenseman and scoring a goal

Shenanigans: Alex Garlick Your weekly presidential intake

When you woke up this morning, were you wondering if there could be yet another presidential election column in this space? Say it with me, "YES WE CAN!" Anyway, Tuesday, March 4 is setting up to be the Super-est Tuesday since ... Super Tuesday. Texas, Ohio, Rhode Island and Vermont (!) may be the last chance for former First Lady Hillary Clinton to stop the Barack Obama express. Even Bill admits that Hillary is backed into a corner, but that could be bad news for Barack. The Clintons are best when their backs are against the political wall. Remember when Hillary lost Iowa and her early front-runner status? Out came the tears and emotion in New Hampshire and with them a shocking primary win.

Now, less than a week away from Hillary's last stand, the Drudge Report posts a photo of Barack Obama in traditional Sunni Muslim garb in Somalia that allegedly was circulating within the Clinton campaign. How does the Clinton campaign react? Hillary offers a non-denial denial saying, "I know nothing about it," but was careful not to accuse Matt Drudge (probably because Drudge has the incriminating e-mail). Then Hillary tried to change the subject, "But let's just stop and ask yourself: Why are you — why is anybody concerned about this?" she asked. Maggie Williams, Clinton's campaign manager, continued this thought, even going so far as to blame the Obama campaign for the whole mess (which, remember, was started when one of her employees allegedly e-mailed the photo to the most incendiary conservative news monger on the Internet). She said in a statement, "If Barack Obama's campaign wants to suggest that a photo of him wearing traditional Somali clothing is divisive, they should be ashamed. Hillary Clinton has worn the traditional clothing of countries she has visited and had those photos published widely."

You know who should be ashamed Ms. Williams? You. If an average American sees a photo of Hillary Clinton in traditional Muslim dress, what's the first word that comes to mind? I would guess "ridiculous." A word that could come to mind when Barack is in Somali dress — "terrorist." This is a man that has faced allegations of being Muslim,



campuscolumnist

and Maggie Williams does not see how this could be divisive? Williams then claims the Obama campaign is trying to distract voters. Do you really think Barack is trying to distract people when he is on an 11-state winning streak?

If this partisan infighting makes you sick, there's also traditional partisan fighting. On Sunday, DNC Chairman Howard Dean accused John McCain of accepting over \$6 million in public matching funds when his campaign was struggling, only to now be skirting the regulations and spending caps that came with it. The Federal Election Council has yet to rule, but McCain cannot be happy to have his integrity attacked again. Only last week, *The New York Times* ran a front-page hatchet job on McCain's honor that the paper's own ombudsman criticized for making unsubstantiated claims about a McCain affair with a lobbyist.

The presumptive Republican nominee is really in a tough spot, because if Dean's allegation sticks, McCain will be looking at a serious fundraising deficit, and we are talking a vintage 2003 George W. Bush-style deficit. Barack Obama raised more than \$30 million in January and is projected to raise over \$50 million in February. Imagine what he could do with every Democratic donor behind him? McCain is pushing back by pressuring Obama to honor a statement he made months ago regarding accepting matching funds for the general election. This could cost Obama hundreds of millions of dollars. I guess McCain is familiar with how much it hurts when something you did months ago comes back to bite your campaign in the butt.

Alex Garlick '08.5 is a Political Science and Economics major from Needham, Mass.

op-ed: Jenna Levine

Tips when encountered with the police

There has been much rumor and miscommunication regarding the Oct. 26 VACA Halloween party police incident involving alumna Emilie McDonald and me. I do not wish here to separate rumor from fact but only to suggest that I was wrong and unhelpful when I interjected myself into the situation. Sensitive to my friend, I intended only to be supportive, but my action interrupted the officers in their line of duty, causing more trouble than good.

Furthermore, I would like to suggest that anyone who has read *The Campus* articles written by Scott Greene and Dean Attya disregard what was written about my case and any of my quotes included in the Greene article.

Instead, I ask you to recognize these helpful suggestions provided by the American Civil Liberties Union. Their Web site, www.aclu.org offers more specific information on how to behave when in contact with the police. This information would have been beneficial to me on the evening of the 26th, thus I really encourage you to read this material so that you can be prepared in the event of a police encounter. Of course, acting respectfully is advis-

able when dealing with anyone in any situation.

Think carefully about your words, movement, body language and emotions.

Don't get into an argument with the police.

Remember, anything you say or do can be used against you.

Keep your hands where the police can see them.

Don't run. Don't touch any police officer.

Don't resist even if you believe you are innocent.

Don't complain on the scene or tell the police they're wrong or that you're going to file a complaint.

Do not make any statements regarding the incident. Ask for a lawyer immediately upon your arrest.

Remember officers' badge and patrol car numbers.

Write down everything you remember ASAP.

Try to find witnesses and their names and phone numbers.

If you are injured, take photographs of the injuries as soon as possible, but make sure you seek medical attention first.

If you feel your rights have been violated, file a written com-

plaint with the police department's internal affairs division or civilian complaint board.

What you say to the police is always important. What you say can be used against you, and it can give the police an excuse to arrest you, especially if you bad-mouth a police officer.

You must show your driver's license and registration when stopped in a car. Otherwise, you don't have to answer any questions if you are detained or arrested, with one important exception. The police may ask for your name if you have been properly detained, and you can be arrested in some states for refusing to give it. If you reasonably fear that your name is incriminating, you can claim the right to remain silent, which may be a defense in case you are arrested anyway.

You don't have to consent to any search of yourself, your car or your house. If you DO consent to a search, it can affect your rights later in court. If the police say they have a search warrant, ASK TO SEE IT.

Do not interfere with or obstruct the police — you can be arrested for it.

Jenna Levine '07 is from Chicago, Ill.

web poll: Should Orange Crush go away forever?



"They're like herpes, they keep coming back."

—DANIEL HONBERG '08



"No, I would riot."

—JEN FOTH '08

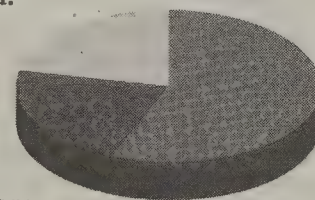


"They're a blast."

—ANDREW OSTROFF '10.5

Yes, they are getting old. 22%

22%
I don't care.



No way!
They were great!
56%

Next week's web poll: How do you feel about the College's decision to renovate Proctor?

Results taken from poll at www.middleburycampus.com

op-ed: Ryan Tauriainen and Chelsea Guster

Blood discrimination costs lives

On Monday, March 3 at 4:00 p.m. in McCullough Social Space, the American Red Cross and the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance (MOQA) will be hosting an historic open forum in order to discuss the discriminatory policies that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) forces blood-collecting organizations to practice. At face value, blood drives hosted by the American Red Cross are a great thing to have on a college campus. College students provide a significant percentage of blood donations in the United States, and most of these students donate at drives sponsored by their school. Middlebury generally hosts a handful of these drives, often with the sponsorship of Atwater Commons. Not many people realize, however, the type of discrimination some people face at these drives, and how certain regulations are not in compliance with Middlebury's non-discrimination policy.

Instituted in 1983, the Red Cross has practiced a ban on gay and bisexual men from donating blood because of the increased risk of AIDS queer men had during this decade. This discrimination has become extremely outdated and offensive to the men of our queer community at Middlebury today. Recently, the president of San Jose State University banned all blood drives instituted by the American Red Cross because of its discriminatory policies concerning gay and bisexual men. These actions follow the cancellations instated at Southern Oregon University years ago.

To clarify: the FDA policy the Red Cross follows is one that bans any man who has ever engaged in "sexual activity" (whether protected or not) with another male, even once, since 1977. To put this in perspective, a man can have as much unprotected sex with as many illegal prostitutes as he wants, and only be deferred for one year. Obviously, this policy is misguided and outdated. The Red Cross wants Middlebury College's help in defeating it.

In over 20 years, there have been incredible advancements in HIV prevention. At this time, the demographic with the highest growing cases of infection are heterosexual women: especially African American women. And yet, any man who has had any form of sex with a man, whether it be protected, monogamous or even just once, is permanently banned from donating blood. The sentiment given off is that all gay and bisexual men have AIDS, and not only that, but their form of AIDS is undetectable. The screening process that all blood goes through in the Red Cross can detect HIV within 11 days of infection — even before

one's own body can detect the virus.

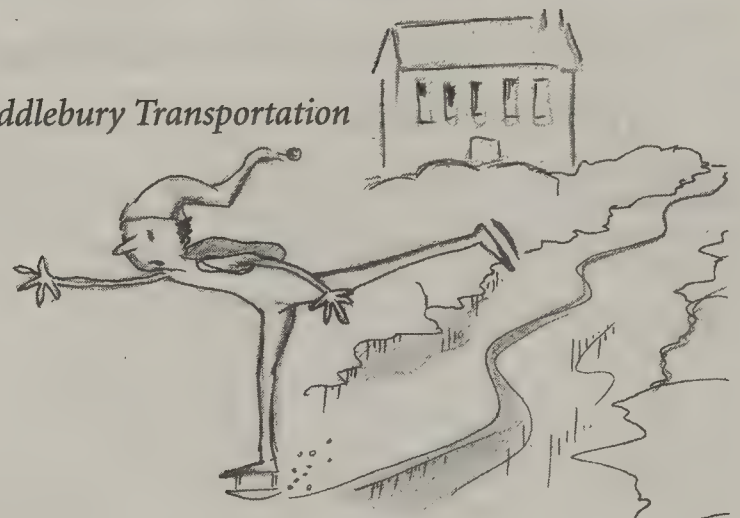
Middlebury College has a non-discrimination policy of which the community is very proud. It is one that, among many other things, does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. This extremely outdated policy by the FDA is a discriminatory practice. It is not discriminating upon the notion of unsafe sex, which any person no matter his or her sexual orientation can commit. It discriminates upon an identity for unfounded reasons. An organization that discriminates against any group of people or students should not be allowed to use the college's facilities and benefit from funds that all students contribute to this college.

Because blood is important to save lives and is often banked in low numbers, it would serve the FDA well to lift the ban on gay and bisexual men from donating, or at least relaxing their rules to better fit the times. Without activism, this may never happen. These practices should not go unquestioned at a school like Middlebury where we are taught to question policy that is unfair to our minorities. Can Middlebury continue to give space to an organization, though virtuous in its ultimate mission, which discriminates against certain students? Wonderfully for us, the American Red Cross would like to inspire activism in order to lift this ban. Upon being asked by the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance, Middlebury College will be hosting a historic meeting with the American Red Cross in order to discuss the discrimination gay and bisexual men face at blood drives.

The open forum is taking place with four high ranking officials from the Red Cross in attendance to talk about the policy against gay and bisexual men and what steps college students can take to fight against it. People with an interest in the medical field are especially encouraged to attend. Additionally, at the March 4 Blood Drive in McCullough, MOQA will be hosting a "sponsor blood drive" in which all students donating blood will be asked to sign a document saying they are donating as a "sponsor" for a gay student who cannot. All of these signatures will be sent, by the Vermont Red Cross, to the CEO of the organization. The MOQA Executive Board hopes that these two events will culminate into campus wide discussion and activism concerning the unfair discrimination queer men are facing.

Ryan Tauriainen '08 and Chelsea Guster '11 are Co-Presidents of the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance.

Middlebury Transportation



Cartoon by John Birnbaum

op-ed: Josh Chan

Why Winter Carnival matters

For 85 years, longer than Battell, Ross and Atwater have existed, Middlebury College's Winter Carnival has been a three-day event. It is a historic and incredibly important Middlebury institution, and is the envy of college carnivals throughout the Northeast. It is a time when students, faculty and staff can collectively lay down their burdens and come together as a community to celebrate our college — and winter itself. Despite all this, earlier this year the Administration decided that the Friday off was not necessary to continue the Winter Carnival tradition.

There is nothing that could be further from the truth. The enthusiasm, activities and excitement surrounding this year's Winter Carnival are clear testaments to this fact. Certainly in recent years, Winter Carnival had lost some of its luster. The disappearance of snow sculptures, a kick-off event and other traditional elements had hurt the image of Winter Carnival, which in large part lead to the administration's decision. While this decision came as a shock, it did serve one purpose: it forced us to reexamine and to return to the fine Winter Carnival traditions of old, as established by the Mountain Club 85 years ago. As a result, this year we had a bonfire, fireworks, snow sculptures, increased attendance at the ski races, a Winter Ball the likes of which we had never seen and an overall increased participation in Winter Carnival events. The Middlebury community joined together to honor one of our finest traditions.

Some question what we really lose if the Friday is eliminated. My answer is that we lose the heart and soul of Winter Carnival itself. The Friday off is essential to provide time for people to make their way up to the Snow Bowl and Bread Loaf to watch our Division I ski team's only home meet. This

Friday allows students the opportunity to construct snow sculptures and participate in the Northern Lights, as well as other daytime events. Winter Carnival is a time when we can embrace the (often otherwise inhospitable) cold of winter in celebration, instead of just struggling to stay warm. One need look no further than this year's Thursday night opening ceremony to see that the Winter Carnival spirit is alive and well. At this event, over 700 people huddled outside to drink hot cocoa, bask in the warmth of a bonfire and watch a magnificent fireworks display.

Let me be clear that I have no objection to a student symposium. We should definitely take time to recognize our fellow students' academic accomplishments. However, it is not necessary that we sacrifice one of the few days when students have the opportunity to celebrate the place where they live and the people with whom they.

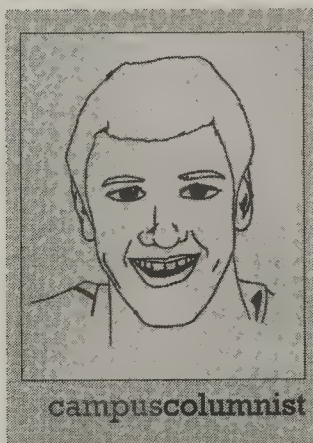
Rather, a compromise can be arranged. A day could easily be subtracted from the spring term reading period, which is one of the longest amongst the NESCAC schools. Surely, Winter Carnival, which is as old as the Winter Olympic Games themselves, is deserving of this minimal tradeoff.

What will we remember from this year's Winter Carnival? Fireworks illuminating the night sky? Snow sculptures carved by the hands of the commons? The fine performance by the ski team at Bread Loaf and the Snow Bowl? A Winter Ball with all the fixings? Absolutely. The question is, will we also look back years from now and lament that this was the last true Winter Carnival in the history of Middlebury College? Remember: Great Memories Never Melt.

Josh Chan '08 is a Neuroscience Major and Chief of Staff for the Student Government Association.

A preface to lunch: James O'Brien

"Think about this" — I wanted some tea not scuzz in my glass



This week, thin white cards with words on them were placed in those plastic holder things on the dining hall tables. They said "Think about this..." and argued about tiny dining hall budgets. Here are my ignorant thoughts, which I invite you to respond to in op-ed form so that we can fill space in next week's fine edition of *The Campus*.

One of the "Think about this" cards told me that the food budget for each student per day is \$3.84. Roughly \$1.28 per meal. My reaction to this was: a. Gadzooks! and b. Either Dining Services is performing feats of

wizardry to obtain the cheapest food in the Milky Way, or several hundred students are on a hunger strike over the pathetic amount of money allotted to feed them.

I think that putting these cards on the tables was a mistake. No student likes to think about how much money their parents are paying so that they can read some books, screw around and eat a daily fill which is equivalent price-wise to a Baconator meal at Wendy's. And yet there it is in front of you — "Comprehensive fee in 2007: \$46,910." If we really want to get a conversation started, maybe they could put a pie chart of the entire Middlebury College budget on our dining tables, not just the anemic dining budget.

One card says, "You can help by returning any dishes that you see out of place." Completely ignore this request. Thanks to the surge in returned dishware, several tainted cups and dishes are back in circulation. This is bad. For the two months prior to being returned, these plates and cups had been in some kid's closet soaking up stale bong water behind his skis and his didgeridoo. I, King James, do not want to eat off didgeridoo plates. Now, I have to scrutinize each plate and glass like it's a Making the Band contestant before I put anything into it. This month, I decided to "suck it

up," and I ended up drinking tea out of a cup that seemed to have traces of someone's hot fudge sundae on the bottom. I am now sick with multiple ear infections. If the dishwasher can't clean these stains, I don't trust it to kill germs. And now I can't hear.

Of course, correlation is not causation, so there is no way to prove that my sickness has anything to do with dish-scuzz. In the same vein, the friendly "Think about this" cards are boasting that the removal of trays from the dining hall caused this year's compost output to be .04 percent/meal less than last year's. You can't prove that tray removal lowered the compost output. What if there were just a lot of fat/not-fasting-in-outrage students who graduated last year? And who cares about compost output? The .04 percent reduction in compost has very little to do with our "carbon footprint." If food is in the compost pile, fine. Who cares how big the pile is? Eventually, it all goes back into the ground. If we eat the food and the waste ends up in the septic tank, isn't that actually worse for the environment? To summarize, getting rid of the trays saves dishwasher soap. That's it. Also, I don't like scuzz.

As I write this, I am staring at one, two ... 10 pieces of dishware that have accumu-

lated in my room. They are all scuzz-ridden, and I'm afraid to return them for fear that, in some cruel twist of fate, I will end up using them at dinner the next night. None of these pieces of dishware are mine. I bring them into my room after some jerk leaves them in the hall bathroom and, more importantly, after I've had to endure a week's worth of our janitor's idle threats written on the mirror in red marker. "Return these or I will talk to your commons dean," the mirror usually says. I always want to write a counter-note that reads something like:

"Dear Madame, our commons dean has more important things to do than worry about one dish in the bathroom. I have escorted the dish into my room, and now it can happily accumulate dust and take up shelf space that could have been devoted to a pornographic DVD — or a useless \$60 book that I don't feel like selling back to the bookstore for 1/20 of its worth. Ahem. In this lovely shelf spot, your beloved dish will rest, so that I can gaze upon it daily and further develop my attitude problem. Love, James."

This note is too big to fit on the bathroom mirror, so I just take the dishes.

James O'Brien '10 is an English major from Medfield, Mass.

op-ed: Chris Anderson
Relieving the burden of a
Middlebury education

I read in *The Campus* recently that Dartmouth was eliminating loan and aid packages for lower income students. After reading that headline, my internal dialogue was something like:

"Outrage! How could they — oh. This has to be a good thing. Because of course they have to supplement their incomes. So if they're eliminating loans, they must be replacing them with ..."

Grants, and grants aplenty. For students whose parents make less than \$75,000 annually, Dartmouth will foot the bill. This, according to the paper, comes as part of Dartmouth's recent \$1.3 billion fundraising effort. Out of that chunk, 10 percent (or \$130 million) will be devoted to assisting those students. 10 percent (a substantial portion of a massive amount of money) will go to the lowest branch of the Dartmouth tree (below building maintenance, the purchasing of new buildings, the "betterment of the campus," and the grinding gears of the college machine) — to its students.

According to the *Princeton Review*, Dartmouth is "home" to roughly 4,000 undergraduate students. That makes it almost twice as big as us. Their projected donations will be almost three times as big as ours (we're gunning for \$500 million). That means we would have to donate a larger percentage per student to institute the same kind of plan. It means we would have to do more than Dartmouth (or Yale or Harvard) is doing. And it means two other things: 1.) that we won't, because ... we just don't. We don't do those types of things that really *help* our students. We prefer the property, the Chocolate whatever's, the failed social endeavors (Xanadu?), the "indirect" methods. We prefer to let the Dartmouths try and fail, or succeed, or do it first and be the testing ground. And 2.) that we will continue

to squander our money on failed college insignias and tire art and chocolate bars and God, I can't believe I just wrote "chocolate bars," because are we serious? Really?"

Dartmouth is a different kind of college than Middlebury, and it *must* be structured differently. Tuition is not the same as a comprehensive fee, and I get that our aid packages will have discrepancies. I also get that Middlebury furnishes each of its students with a big chunk of aid and some great opportunities. But Dartmouth is targeting a specific income bracket with the knowledge that theirs holds the greatest financial burden. They're also offering scholarships to the same students to pay for room and board, books, and other expenses. They seem to get that the average middle class family pays more than \$7,000 a year for insurance — not a part of the calculator for "Expected Family Contribution" — and that children of families with small (read: not always profitable) businesses have an added burden placed upon them. They seem to understand that 70 percent of the United States populous falls into the definition of "Middle Class." They seem to understand a lot of things that we don't, and that makes me sad.

Middlebury will never be a Harvard, a Yale or a Dartmouth. And that we have some clout now makes it all the more imperative to use it for "good." Rather than posing and posturing, or denying we care about the results of *U.S. News'* Best Colleges List, or being eco-conscious/eco-friendly/biomass-capable/carbon-offset/powered by soundbites, can we please lend more of a helping hand to the people who need it? Please?

When it comes to alumni giving, I promise to give what I can if we use it for *that*.

P.S.: Colby just did the same. Check their Web site out sometime.

Chris Anderson '10 is from La Crosse, Wis.

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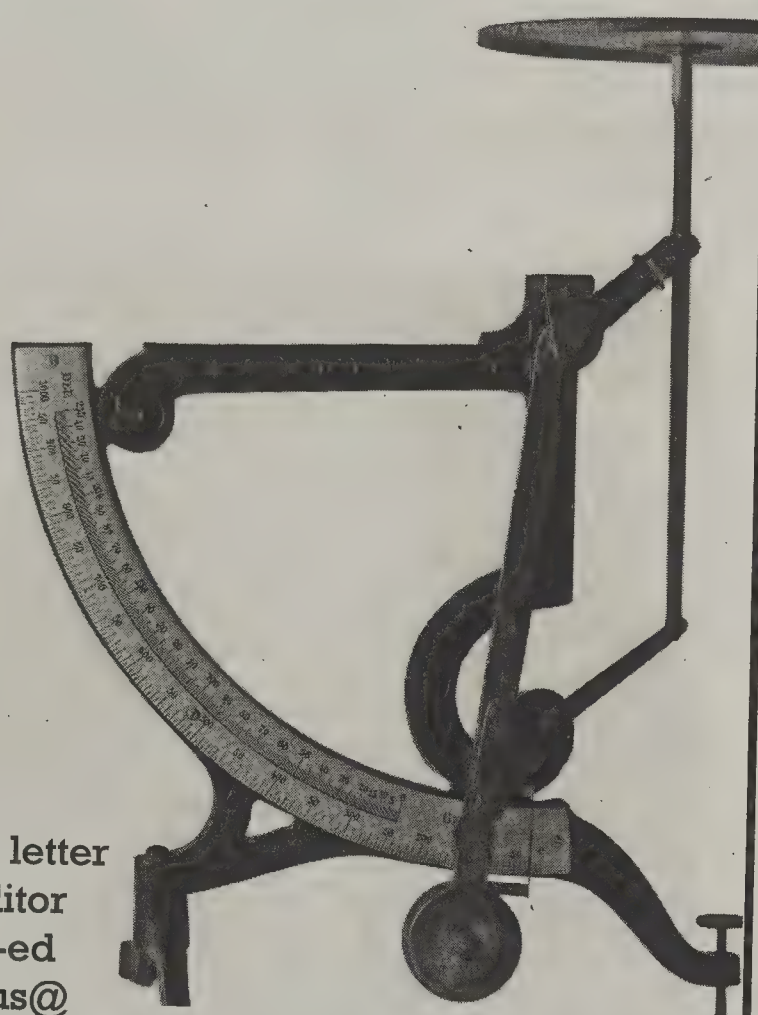
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How aid affects life at the College and beyond

Chances are that if you do not receive financial aid, one or more of your close friends does: with one of the nation's highest costs of attendance, the College offers some form of financial assistance to nearly half of its students. With aid taking on an increasingly prominent role in the College's fundraising, Middlebury certainly hopes that better aid offers will draw students to the College.

But how will it impact their lives once they get here?

Alexandra Fisher '10, a French and Environmental Studies double major, saw the financial aid package she receives from Middlebury impact her decision to study abroad. "I was thinking of going to Madagascar, but you can't use Middlebury financial aid for non-Middlebury programs abroad," explained Fisher, whose total aid each year comes to \$27,110, including an \$18,360 grant from the College.

Having already taken out a \$4,000 Federal Perkins Loan, Fisher was ultimately unable to study in Madagascar. "I decided on France because there's a Middlebury program there," she said. "I would have had to take out more loans to do the program in Africa, so I didn't go."

Fisher's family is expected to cover approximately \$25,000 of her tuition during each of her four years at Middlebury. The Perkins Loan will not be sufficient to cover all of her costs, she estimates. "For the next two years it's most likely that I'm going to have to take out more substantial loans on my own that are not part of the College's aid," she said.

In accordance with the College's policy, all academic and merit scholarship money Fisher received did not go towards reducing the contribution she and her family must make. "I received a total of \$3,450 in scholarships, including a \$2,500 National Merit Scholarship," Fisher said. "It didn't affect the amount of money my family had to pay but it was subtracted from the grant aid I received from Middlebury."

According to Director of Student Financial Services Kim Downs, the College's policy in all situations like Fisher's in which students receive outside aid, such as scholarships and merit grants, is to "replace the self-help component—loan and work—of an institutional award." Downs explained that, "Because Middlebury College meets full need, any 'outside' funding received by the student must be considered in the aid award."

Fisher's family will be receiving more aid from Middlebury next year, however, as her brother will be starting Penn State University in fall 2008.

Downs emphasized the importance of families such as Fisher's notifying the school of financial changes times, as the College evaluates students' circumstances each year in order to adjust aid packages.

"If something changes, for example a parent is

laid off, someone is injured, etc., then we look at that and adjust accordingly," she said. "We tell students we want to hear about that and take that into account."

When deciding what college to attend, Fisher preferred Middlebury from the start, despite its giving her the smallest aid package. "Pomona, Bucknell and Colby all gave me more aid, but I wanted to go here, much to the dismay of my parents," Fisher said, citing the higher rankings of Pomona and Middlebury as factors separating them from Bucknell and Colby. "I definitely wanted to go to Middlebury all along, because it has such a good and established Environmental Studies program," Fisher said. "It's the oldest one out there."

Although her financial situation at Middlebury did not affect her choice of majors, the need to pay back her loans is a factor in Fisher's plans beyond commencement. "I'm going to have to get a job right away rather than going into the Peace Corps or law school, which is what I want to do," Fisher said. "I haven't really thought about what kind of job I'm going to get, I'm just hoping everything is going to work itself out."

Zachary Bills '11 does not qualify for financial aid, but receives no help from his parents in paying for his Middlebury education. "My tuition is paid for by my uncle, which is about \$22,000 each year," he said.

Bills parents paid for his private middle and secondary school education, telling him he was on his own for college. "My father had the attitude that he didn't receive any help from his parents and so he had no problem cutting me loose for college," Bills explained. "I pay \$2,960 of my own money each semester for room and board," he said. "I haven't had to take out a loan yet because I worked all summer and devoted my life savings and funds to pay for Middlebury."

"The school doesn't have any obligation to help me out," Bills acknowledged of his difficult circumstance. "Yes, I'm going to come out of school with a lot of debt but I'm invested in my education and it will pay back for itself tenfold."

Bills sees his financial circumstances as motivation for his academics at Middlebury, particularly his study of Chinese. "I'm planning on doing something profitable; obviously, because I need to pay off my college debt," he said. "I'm not taking Chinese to work for a volunteer program and teach kids to speak English. I'm going with Chinese because I can use it for a lucrative career."

Like Fisher, such a payoff after graduation was Bills' reason for attending Middlebury in spite of his lack of financial assistance in avoiding post-graduation debt. "I'm at Midd because they have the best



CHINESE WILL PAY FOR BILLS

Zachary Bills receives no financial help from the College or his parents and must pay \$23,680 in college debt on his own. Bills plans to use his new Mandarin skills to acquire a well-paying job after graduation.

language programs in the world, and it will give me that extra edge in the market," he said.

Stephanie Ellis '08, was offered financial aid in the form of a work-study program when she applied in 2003, but later turned it down. "They gave me a work-study offer which they estimated would turn out \$1,200 a year," she said of the program which would have made her eligible for on-campus jobs open only to work-study students. "They suggested I use it to pay for the \$1,000-1,200 of projected personal expenses each year."

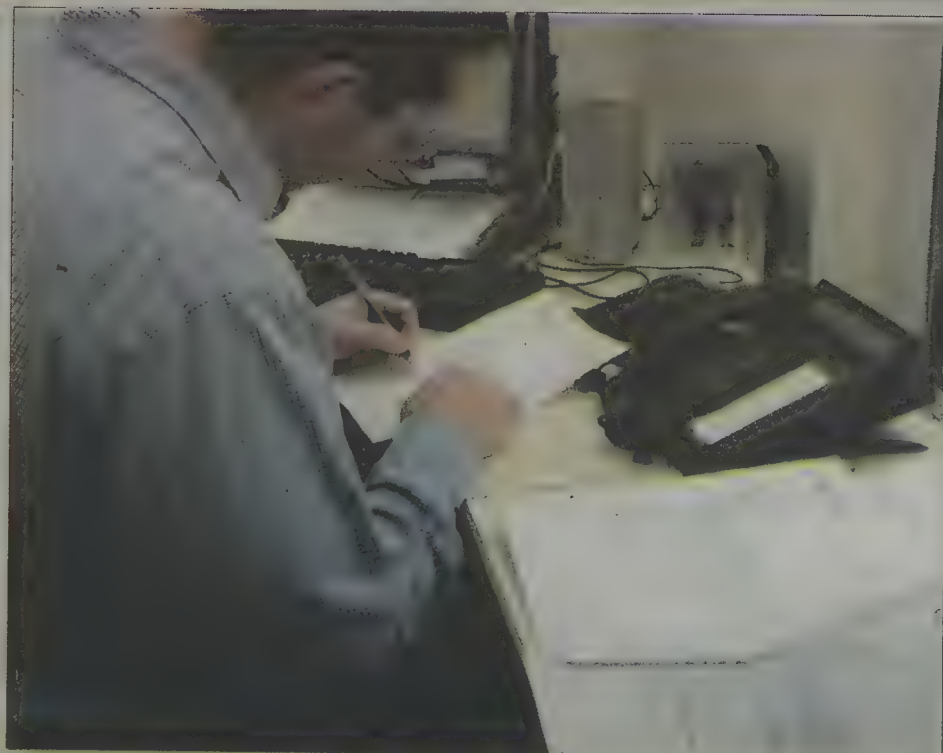
Although she initially planned to do the program, Ellis soon changed her mind at the advice of her father. "My dad said, 'What's \$1,200 compared to what we have to pay anyways?'" Ellis said. "He said he'd rather have me take advantage of other college experiences than be tied down to work-study."



Midd strives to meet the rising financial needs of students

IS IT ENOUGH?

Middlebury



A CALCULATED OFFER

With the College now competing for top applicants with heavily-endowed Williams and Amherst, as well as several larger universities that have begun subsidizing tuition for low-income students, Financial Services has begun replacing student loans with direct grants.

A growing number of elite U.S. colleges have begun offering "free tuition" to many of their applicants. On Feb. 25, Brown University joined Harvard, Yale, Stanford and Dartmouth in committing to completely eliminate the cost of tuition for students whose families earn less than \$60,000 each year and increase aid to those earning up to \$100,000. In the NESCAC, Williams and Amherst have cut loans entirely from their aid packages, meaning aid recipients can make their entire tuition contribution through campus work-study programs.

Yet, these schools also share something else in common: endowments in excess of \$1 billion. As Middlebury nears this significant marker (the College's endowment stood at \$936 million in 2007), what steps are being taken to make sure its own financial aid program can compete?

"A lot of the focus recently has been on undergraduate debt," said Kim Downs, director of Student Financial Services, the College's financial aid office. "We have a lot of graduates who are going to non-profits after graduation, and obviously they're going to have a harder time paying back their loan. We don't want these students to be overwhelmed by debt."

With this circumstance in mind, the College last year launched the Reduced Loan Initiative, a centerpiece of the school's plan to revamp financial aid packages.

The Office of Admissions lists a \$46,910 annual comprehensive fee, making Middlebury one of the most expensive schools in the country. With an average grant of \$30,700, however, the average financial aid recipient at Middlebury must make up the extra \$16,000 or so three ways: through campus work-study, student loans and a certain financial contribution from his or her family.

Prior to the class of 2011, financial aid packages included a standard \$4,000 loan per year, regardless of family income — a plan which left graduates with up to \$16,000 in debts. The Reduced Loan Initiative lowers this debt burden over four years by up to \$10,000 for students with the lowest levels of family income by replacing these student loans with extra grants. Though the Initiative does not completely eliminate loans as Williams and Amherst have done, the College believes it can — and must — be enough for now.

"Middlebury is catching up, but what we're seeing is Williams' nearly \$2 billion endowment at work," said Patrick Norton, the College's vice president for administration and chief financial officer.

The College also hopes to expand the number of students who receive financial aid from 41 to 43 percent of the student body. The goal in mind, according to Dean of Planning John Emerson, is to increase socio-economic diversity on campus.

"In recent years we have made excellent progress in making Middlebury more attractive for upper middle-income families, but we still have a challenge with students from families in the lower half of the income distribution," explained Emerson. "Consider all families in the U.S. that have at least one student in college. These families are of course more affluent than other U.S. families. Still, almost half of them have incomes below \$80,000. At Middlebury, fewer than 20 percent of families have incomes below \$80,000. So we have work to do."

The College's two-pronged approach to financial aid will not come cheaply. Before the College's 2006 vault into fifth place in the U.S. News & World Report rankings, its endowment was comparable to its closest-ranked peer schools. Now in a "top five" bracket that includes the richest three liberal arts colleges, Middlebury finds itself making trade-offs

for some aspiring college students, the long process of applications and anticipation ends the day the coveted "fat envelope" arrives.

Yet for others, getting in does not matter quite as much as getting enough — financial aid, that is. For 41 percent of students here at the College (soon to be 43 percent), the question of financial aid was one they discussed with Kim Downs and her associates in the Student Financial Services office, which she directs. While Emma Willard may be the public face of Middlebury's admissions, the folks in Meeker House are tasked with making what has become one of the most expensive colleges in the country affordable for those admitted. Their decisions, *The Campus* found, offer students in need not only a path to higher education, but also a series of challenges along the way.

As the College and its peer schools work quickly to beef up their financial aid packages, need across the nation is rising, whether from the recent economic downturn or from the increase in the socio-economic diversity of the College's applicant pool. Our spread this week examines both the administrative and the student life sides of the financial aid question.

Reporting by Mary Lane and Derek Schlickeisen

Layout by Hannah Wilson

Photos by Andrew Ngeow

between competing financially for the best and most diverse students and other priorities.

Of the \$500 million to be raised by Middlebury's five-year campaign, roughly \$26 million of the new endowment support will be needed to fund the Reduced Loan Initiative, while another \$154 million will go towards increasing the number of financial aid recipients.

"Financial aid is expensive," said Emerson. "One example of a trade-off made is a decision to go slow with the completion of the commons infrastructure. Indeed it isn't clear that the five commons will ever have their own dining halls. Although I am personally a supporter of the commons, I think that financial access to Middlebury needs to be the highest priority."

Dean of Admissions Robert Claggett argued that this year's first-year class gives evidence that the new aid program is working.

"There is no question that the loan reduction program that we instituted for this year's first-years had the effect of increasing our socio-economic diversity across all income groups," he said. "In fact, our yield on grant recipients last year was even higher than for the whole class, so that's a very good sign that our financial aid policies are helping us attract a high percentage of our admitted students, regardless of financial background."

As the College works to upgrade its financial aid programs, Norton cautioned against being too impressed by the glossy claims of schools now offering "free" tuition.

"Free tuition doesn't mean free cost of attendance," said Norton. "Free tuition doesn't include the cost of room, board, books and other miscellaneous expenses. There are only a handful of schools that meet the full demonstrated need of their applicants, and we are one of them."

Rising higher education costs put aid front and center

SEX MATTERS



Contraception and Pregnancy: Keeping Sex Safe

By Tess Russell
FEATURES EDITOR

This evening, Middlebury's "Let's Talk About Sex" month continues with the arrival of renowned sex educator Jay Friedman, who will present "The J-Spot" at 7 p.m. in the Warner Hemicycle. Friedman's presentation is in keeping with the lighthearted yet educational spirit of other recent events, such as the "Dating Game" and "Speed Dating."

The students and administrators behind the "Let's Talk About Sex" programming hope that, through the month's activities, they can not only get people talking about sex but also educate them about the facilities available on campus. This is an area where many Middlebury students still have a lot to learn, especially when it comes to the health centers' contraceptive options.

"The Health Center has been making a concerted effort to inform students about available services and to encourage them to take advantage of the wealth of resources available to them," acknowledged Kolbe Franklin '08, President of Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM). "However, I still feel that many students are poorly informed. For example, many students do not know that Plan B (i.e., the 'morning after pill') is available for a very low cost directly at the Health Center."

Indeed, Plan B — which is up to 90 percent effective if taken within the first three days after a sexual encounter — can be purchased for only \$18 at Parton Health Center (it normally costs around 40 dollars). As far as preliminary contraceptives are concerned, the Health Center does not stock birth control on site but can grant prescriptions to female students, to be redeemed at an offsite pharmacy, if they schedule a routine gynecological exam.

Still, if a student does become pregnant while at Middlebury, her local options are limited. The Middlebury chapter of Planned Parenthood, which receives federal grants, does not perform surgical abortions, nor does it dispense RU-486 (more commonly known as the "abortion" pill). Skeek Frazee, the communications director for Planned Parenthood

of Northern New England, elaborated on this policy.

"Because of Title X (the nation's family planning program) and the wrangling over abortion in our country — particularly after the Hyde Amendment, which insured that no poor woman can ever get an abortion for free — there are strict regulations on funding for clinics which perform abortions," she said.

Frazee noted that the four Vermont locations that do provide abortions — in Burlington, Brattleboro, Barre and Rutland — are designated under separate, non-federal funding codes.

"Those clinics require a completely different type of oversight," Frazee explained. "There are additional security measures and insurance costs and they also require additional staff. Even an induced miscarriage (via RU-486) needs to be managed medically and requires ultrasound capacity — meaning a technician and expensive medical equipment."

Abortion and unwanted pregnancy in general are divisive issues, not just along political lines but also between the two genders.

Friedman feels that women — because of the additional risks they face — receive more adequate sexual education in their youth.

"It's not our fault that we guys are the way we are when it comes to sex," said Friedman. "It's the way we are brought up. 50 percent of girls talk to their parents about sex when versus only 25 percent of boys. Guys get less good information so they develop a desperate desire to learn about sex and often turn to outside sources — like Victoria's Secret catalogs and adult videos — that may not present the most accurate and responsible portrayal of sex."

Friedman explained that promoting a balanced message has been invaluable in getting through to American college students who may

be accustomed to environments where talking about sex is taboo.

"The J-Spot has been popular because while I'm helping students prevent problems that result from sexual ignorance, at the same time I'm advocating pleasure," he said. "Given the sex-negative climate most of us grow up in, it is important to have the promise of pleasure if we are going to prevent STIs, unwanted pregnancies and sexual violence."

As far as Friedman is concerned, sex and politics are inextricably linked.

"I think for many students the most fascinating and frightening part of presentation is when I discuss the political and social climate of America to help explain why, for example, our teen pregnancy rates are the among the highest in the developed world," Friedman said. "I actually show an excerpt from a Scandinavian sex ed video and it blows audiences away how much more open the dialogue about sex is there."

However, as Director of Health and Wellness Education Jyoti Daniere explained, some students at Middlebury actually hail from

Man" (aimed at promoting sexual health) and "Heal Like a Man" (which will explore more general health issues).

Daniere conceded that, on the national level, men are less likely than women to seek medical care and mental health services, but she suggested that male students at Middlebury might be more health conscious than their peers, pointing to the flu shots offered in the dining halls last fall (which were administered to roughly equal numbers of male and female) as evidence.

In addition to the divergent male and female attitudes towards health and body awareness, issues of sexual identity can also make students feel closed off to talking about their sexual health.

"I feel many queer students are too embarrassed about disclosing their sexual orientation to visit the Health Center and get answers to their questions about sexual issues," said Ryan Tauranian '08, co-president of the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance.

"I know personally that, during a visit there, my sexual history was asked of me," he continued. "When the nurse assumed it was of a heterosexual nature, it was somewhat embarrassing to have to explain to her otherwise. Perhaps if the Health Center were more sensitive and aware of sexual minorities more students would take advantage."

With the aim of getting students of all genders and sexual orientations on the same page about safe sex, FAM organized a tabling series in dining halls earlier this week to try to make students aware of the services and resources available to them and to dispense free condoms.

But what to do now with all of those prophylactics? For starters, you can drop by Friedman's lecture and hear his "tantalizing tips" about condom use.

"We can tell people to wear them but unless we can make them see how that is fun and pleasurable they are not always going to do it," Friedman said.

As for finding a willing partner, you are on your own.

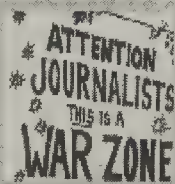
PART TWO

sexual backgrounds on the other end of the spectrum.

"It is important to remember, when we are educating students, that there are many people on this campus who choose not to be sexually active," Daniere said. "I recently had an international student approach me who was simply shocked at how much sex was 'out there' at Middlebury."

In order to provide safe environments for both men and women to talk about the sexual scene at Middlebury, Daniere's office recently coordinated two "Sex in the Woods" workshops, with one geared specifically towards each gender. They also plan to hold more male-specific workshops during April's upcoming Mind the Body week, including "Love Like a

Back from Baghdad
Middlebury graduate offers a
front line perspective, page 17



Get in the D-spot
Dina dishes on sex and relationships, page 19

Learn more about
independent scholars,
page 18



Midd alum discusses journalism in Baghdad

By Thomas Brant
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

On a visit to Baghdad's Shorja market last spring, Indiana Congressman Mike Pence commented on how peace was taking hold in Iraq. The market, he said, was "like a normal outdoor market in Indiana in the summertime."

Pence must have been oblivious to the flak jacket he was wearing or the troops that were surrounding him because, as Adi Raval '98 made clear to a packed audience attending his "Meet the Press" lecture in McCardell Bicentennial Hall on Feb. 21, Baghdad still is not peaceful, and it is nothing like Indiana in the summertime.

"What [the Iraqis] have to go through on a daily basis just to get to work is amazing," Raval said. During multiple two-month stints as the British Broadcasting Corporation's (BBC) Baghdad bureau chief last year, Raval's life was on the line daily, as were the lives of the Iraqis with whom he spoke.

One day, Raval told the audience, a custodial assistant in the BBC compound came to work with tears streaming down her face. Raval asked his interpreter what was wrong with the woman. It turned out that the Iraqi police had found an improvised explosive device (IED) in a car parked outside her house and were planning to detonate it on the spot rather than risk towing it to a more secure location.

Raval faced his share of danger, too. He traversed the five-mile strip between Baghdad International Airport and the American-secured Green Zone two times, once the most dangerous highway in Iraq. The first time it was so perilous that the U.S. military arranged a Black Hawk helicopter for

him and his staff. On his second trip, it was deemed safe enough to "drive at 70 miles per hour in an armored bus and hope you don't get blown up by an IED," Raval said.

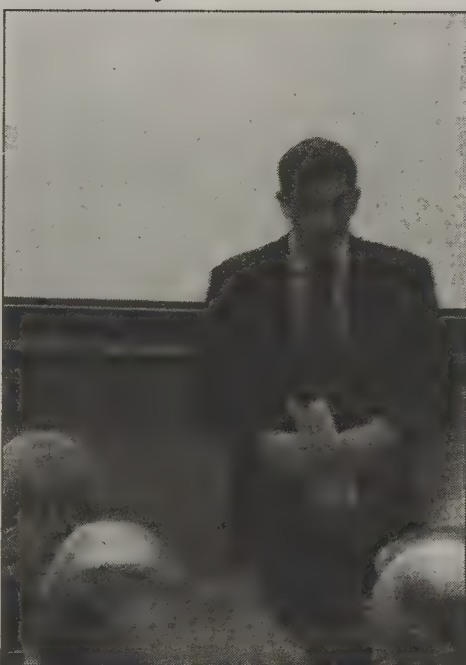
Combine the constant danger of being blown up or taken hostage for a huge ransom with 19-hour workdays, and it is no wonder that the BBC replaces its Baghdad chief every two months, Raval said.

"It's really hard, and you have to be completely unemotional," he said.

The audience, a mix of students, eclectic Vermonters and

equally eclectic professors, was captivated as Raval talked about the effect of the U.S. media and military presence on ordinary Iraqis. Originally from San Francisco, he explained that he views his dual roles as American observer and British journalist separately but equally important.

"When you're an American in Iraq, you experience firsthand our country's darkest moments," Raval said. "There was a sense of shock across the board from all Iraqis I spoke to that America had done such a poor job. Some of them told me that they actually regretted that the Americans had come in."



Meaghen Brown

Adi Raval '98 discusses the challenges of covering the war in Iraq.

fice."

Nothing gave Raval a clearer sense of the strained relationship between Iraqis and Americans than watching the transfer of power to the Iraqi government on June 28, 2004, when he was working as an ABC correspondent before joining the BBC.

"We received a phone call from Paul Bremer's office," Raval said. "They said, 'Can you and Peter Jennings be inside the Green Zone in two hours?'"

With no other information given, Raval immediately said yes.

"You don't ask questions" of someone

The attitude of the people Raval talked to disturbed him.

"I felt it was my duty to help the Iraqis," Raval said. "They saw me as a representative of the American government and the Bush administration. What they want is a clearer sense of American resolve. They want to know how patient we are at carrying out the war. They don't want a foreign presence longer than is necessary, but they worry about the immediate drawdown of troops that the Democratic [presidential] candidates have said they would do once in of-

like Bremer, who coordinated the reconstruction efforts, Raval explained.

It was 120 degrees Fahrenheit outside when the ABC team arrived at the secret chamber deep inside the Green Zone where the prime minister's office was located. There was no indication that something as momentous as a transfer of power was about to occur.

"Paul Bremer handed the legal document to the Iraqis, and that was it," Raval said. "The ceremony was rushed and not very well thought out. There was no Berlin Wall moment. I was one of the few people in the world who actually knew what had transpired. I realized how surreal it was that I was a part of history."

Following his speech, Raval addressed questions from the audience, including one from a professor who had taught him at Middlebury. He wanted to know what Raval thought about the media presence from various foreign countries in Iraq.

"The British are by definition more skeptical and cynical than the American journalists are," Raval replied. "There's a commitment on the part of the BBC to be in Baghdad and to report on political events. We're always doing [a story] on Iraq."

Asked about Raval's answer after the lecture, Bilal Sarwary '10, also a BBC correspondent, agreed.

"The way I see the Americans is that they are like nomads," Sarwary said. "The BBC are like settlers."

That may explain why Raval's account of the perils of his two months in Baghdad is at odds with Pence's description of "a normal outdoor market in Indiana in the summertime."

Teach For America attracts numerous grads

By Sara Black
STAFF WRITER

Remember in Mrs. Richardson's class when you got to dress up as Abraham Lincoln and in seventh grade when you dissected the frog? Or how about that time Mr. Rodriguez took your class to the planetarium?

For many young people in the United States, the reality of the American education system is quite grim. The average nine-year-olds growing up in low-income communities perform, on average, three grade-levels behind their high-income peers on standardized tests. They do not have the same repertoire of shining memories, a tragedy that AmeriCorp's Teach for America (TFA) is seeking to remedy through the ranks of eager college students it recruits each year.

After four years of benefiting from Middlebury's highly involved faculty, many graduates find themselves attracted to Teach for America's mission to bring education to students who are less fortunate.

"I majored in Political Science and for my first couple years at Middlebury I saw myself going into politics or journalism, but after a run of internships in law and journalism, I realized I would be antsy sitting at a desk or working as an intern after college," said Ben Salkowe '07, who is working for TFA as a fifth-grade teacher in Las Vegas, Nev. "I wanted to have responsibility for something I cared about and I wanted to keep learning outside of the classroom."

TFA was the brainchild of Wendy Kopp, the product of her senior thesis — a plan to eliminate the educational achievement gap — while she was a student at Princeton University in 1989. Since its inception as a non-profit organization in 1990, TFA has seen great success due to the work of 17,000 energetic college grads.

"I teach on the West side, three or four blocks from the suburbs," said Jessica Cox '07, who teaches in Chicago. "You can see the

disparity from one block to the next — the huge suburban houses with expansive yards just across the way from the small flats where my students' families live. The reality is that our nation provides an inferior education to students in low-income areas."

In the past few years TFA has gained in popularity amongst the students of our country's most prestigious colleges. The number of total applicants is up from 17,350 in 2005 to 18,172 in 2007, with close to 40 percent of those coming from four schools — the University of Chicago, Duke University, Amherst

of the Middlebury curriculum, maybe of the Teach For America recruiting, but it's too easy to not realize the extent of the education problem in this country."

With the increasing emphasis on higher education, many students are unsure what their first post-graduate step should be. TFA provides many students with a career trial run before or while attempting to earn a graduate degree.

"Hearing [the experience of a Middlebury '04 alumnus] really helped me to realize the impact that TFA was having on classrooms around the country," Cox said. "Additionally, my time at Midd and before was marked with a strong sense of service, with a particular passion for working with children. It seemed natural."

TFA accepts students of all majors with a GPA above 2.50 and U.S. citizenship or permanent residence status. While students do not have to have a teaching certificate to apply, the evaluation of TFA applications is certainly thorough, given that the college grads will be faced with challenging situations each day that they work, armed only with their perseverance and patience.

Rachel Dunlap '06, who is stationed in New York, has encountered these difficulties firsthand.

"Even in the best-case, placement scenario, a Corps Member would probably be working for hours each evening and on weekends, particularly at the beginning of their first year," Dunlap said. "Because you're so busy, a lot of other things get sacrificed — sometimes I feel like I was out of the country last year, I was so cut off from friends and the world in general — so make sure you're convinced this is something you want to do."

To prepare its new recruits for this challenge, TFA runs a five-week teaching boot camp, called the Summer Institute, which is based out of various cities around the U.S. Here the recent grads are faced with days packed with classes, meetings, workshops, tutorials and hands-on work. Still, most gradu-

ates find that they only begin to understand the full TFA experience once they step into the classroom.

"While I felt the Institute did give me a lot of information and some important experiences, you can only absorb so much before you start teaching full-time," Dunlap said. "Your real learning comes from your time in the classroom when you begin your position."

Currently, TFA has its programs in place in 26 regions, ranging from New York City, Chicago and New Orleans to more unexpected locales, including Memphis, Tenn., Hawaii, South Dakota and Las Vegas.

"Honestly, who wouldn't want to live in Las Vegas?" Salkowe jokingly said of his new home. "I can see a gigantic pyramid, faux castle, Eiffel Tower and the Stratosphere all from my morning commute."

As 10th on *Businessweek's* list of its "Best places to launch a career," TFA upholds its title with innumerable post-TFA partnerships with reputable graduate schools and companies. Colleges such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University and Stanford University, as well as companies like JP Morgan, Google and Wachovia, all see TFA as a screening process to provide them with only the best and the brightest young leaders of America.

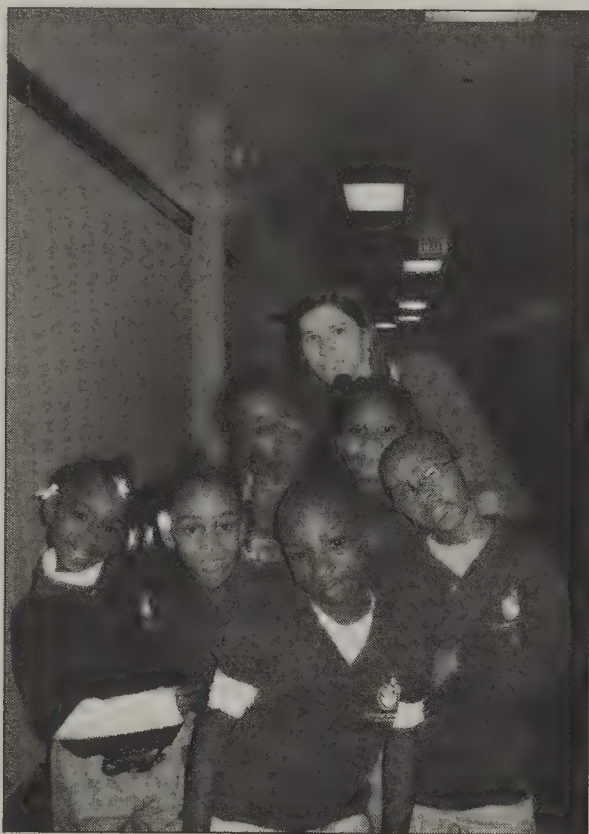
Despite her earlier warning, Dunlap has ultimately found her triumphs in the classroom to be fulfilling.

"I'm not sure I could have found a job right away that is as rewarding. When a kid gets a concept, takes responsibility for his or her progress or goes ice-skating for the first time, you really feel it," Dunlap said.

Cox has felt a similar sense of reward from both her and her students' efforts.

"One of the most frustrating things is when you are teaching a new concept and it just isn't working," said Cox. "At that point, you have to figure out something new on the spot, try it a different way. While it's frustrating, watching the light bulbs go off for students when they do get it is well worth it."

For more information about Teach for America visit its Web site at www.teachforamerica.org.



Courtesy

Teach for America offers grads a chance to give back.

College and Spelman College.

"I think most Middlebury students either have no idea how uniquely qualified they are to be successful teachers, or have no concept of how much they are needed in these communities," Salkowe said. "Maybe it is a failure



the ethicist

by Amanda Greene

I've been thinking a lot about situations that make Middlebury College students feel uncomfortable. I'm not talking about when your scandalous underwear makes an unannounced and unexpected appearance on the laundry room floor. I'm interested in the circumstances that test what we say to those we care about, and how we say it.

Take, for example, your friend Lucy, who you met at the square dance freshman year. The two of you go as far back as college friends can possibly go: you were there when she took her first tequila shot and when she broke up with her long-term high-school boyfriend (on Facebook.) You went to your first SketchCullough dance party together, and ended the night by sharing a Dr. Feel Good. But, now, Lucy is enamored with Tommy and the only places she frequents are class, the dining hall and Tommy's dorm room. It's not just that you never see Lucy, it's that Tommy keeps calling you Kelly and your name is, and always has been, Katie.

So really, what do you do if you don't like your friend's boyfriend? Or her friends? When is it appropriate to voice your concerns, and when should you keep your mouth shut because your words end up being more hurtful than beneficial? Will your candidness help your friend make sense of her relationship or will your comments be interpreted as judgments that doubt her ability to make good decisions?

The answer has to do with how much of your frustrations you address. It's okay to tell your friend that you are concerned about her, and about who she spends time with but don't tell her that you think her boyfriend is a mindless, inconsiderate and cold individual. It's important that you are honest about how you feel, because ignoring your concerns will wear on your conscience. Part of friendship involves breaching difficult subjects, and controversy should not be avoided in order to maintain "peace" because friends are guidance figures of sorts, and their advice is valuable. That said, don't tell your friend you disapprove of her friends, lover, etc. if you don't see any potential change resulting from your remarks. If you think your comments can help your friend grow, voice them — if not, it might be tactful to turn a blind eye.

And now for this week's question:

Q: Every time my friend goes to a party, she "kleptos" a few cans of beer on her way out. She sticks the alcohol in her pants and jacket pockets and usually leaves with around four beer cans. She rationalizes her actions by asserting that staying at the party longer would have resulted in her consumption of the same four beer cans that she is taking. She argues that the individuals who hosted the party would be "out" those four cans regardless of where she consumes them, and makes no distinction between drinking the beer at the party or the following evening in her dorm room. Is this ethical?

— Perturbed-by-Plunder

A: While I admire your friend's rationale and bravado, I do not agree with it. You would not go to a dinner party and fill your plate with seconds you knew you could not finish, and then ask for a doggie bag. The beverages available at parties are to be consumed at parties. If your friend wants to stay until 2 a.m. drinking her fill of alcohol than she is free to do so, but she should not leave the party with more than she came with. People come to parties to mingle, and when your friend takes alcohol, she is sending a message that she views parties as places to exchange drinks, and not as places to hang out and socialize.

Want to consult the ethicist? Send submissions to amgreene@middlebury.edu

Independent scholars break the mold

Designing your own major brings rewards and headaches

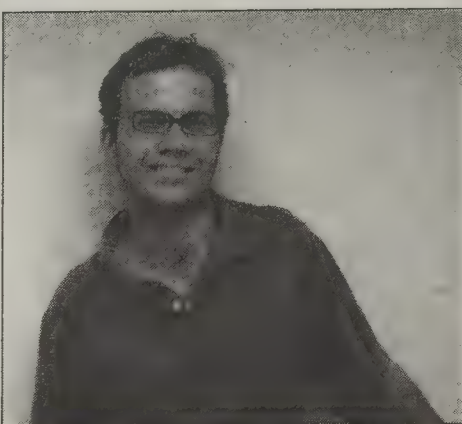
By Rachael Jennings
STAFF WRITER

Information about the Independent Scholars Program at Middlebury is hard to come by. Most students at the College are unfamiliar with the process of applying to design your own curriculum, and many are unaware that the program even exists. But for the few brave souls who choose to follow the uncharted path, the experience is liberating and rewarding.

"It's kind of the ultimate liberal arts degree," said Becky Bierman '08, an Independent Scholar pursuing a "major" in Linguistics. "It allows you to focus on what you want to focus on, without having to fulfill department requirements that may not really interest you."

Morgan Peach '09, also studying Linguistics, believes that the program is best suited to students who, as "explorers" of the academic terrain, wish to "take their own bearing, and follow it, passionately, fervently and courageously."

For these student crusaders to enter



Angela Evancie
Austen Levin-Coon '08 created his major: Poverty, Social Inequalities, and Potential Solutions.

into the program, they must complete three crucial steps — devising an intricate plan of which courses they will take from the beginning to the end of their four years, writing an essay detailing why no other majors fulfill their scholarly pursuits and finding an advisor willing to work with them on their thesis. No minimum GPA requirements exist for independent scholars and no classes are mandatory.

The path to becoming an independent scholar can be trying, especially when seeking out an advisor to help push through the proposal stage. "Faculty are often uncomfortable working with independent scholars because it is never their area of expertise," explained Caitlin Vincek '08. "If it were, you would just be majoring in their department."

Hannah Washington '08 agreed that one must be "willing to jump through the bureaucratic hoops it takes to design your own major."

The only formal review that independent scholars receive is an evaluation at the end of each semester, so students interested in this program must be determined and extremely self-sufficient to maneuver through four years at Middlebury without any additional regulation. Most independent scholars agreed that the most challenging aspect of their course of study was this need for "self-regulation" that is inherent in any system that allows students to be their own administration.

Washington noted that she often felt "lost in the system, majorless, advisorless, without any notice or help from the powers that be."

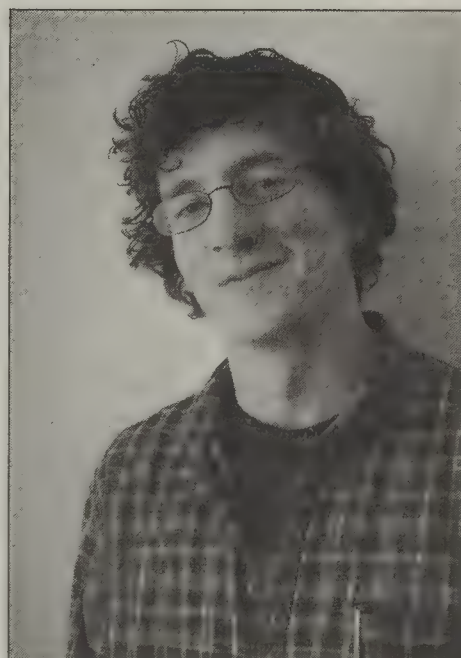
In fact, some students believe that, given the lack of advertising for the program, those "powers that be" are intentionally trying to keep the program under the radar.

"They don't provide any institutional support other than letting you do it, and there is no cohesion with other independent scholars," said Austen Levin-Coon '08, who is studying Poverty, Social Inequities and Potential Solutions.

Despite the administrative hassles involved, most independent scholars stress the benefit of exploring their own passions and assert that they could not have imagined spending their time at Middlebury any other way.

"For me it means that I will not have wasted a ton of money for some ink on my diploma that I didn't necessarily want," said Chuck Bradley '09.

That freedom from cumbersome requirements was commonly cited by independent scholars as what they loved most about their experiences. Peach called her academic study at Middlebury "incredibly empowering and



Angela Evancie
Morgan Peach '09 is studying linguistics.

enlivening," though she did express a fear that others in the academic sphere have forgotten what a true liberal arts education entails.

"Much of society has lost sight of the true nature of the liberal arts, their vision being clouded by an overarching and constantly preoccupying obsession with success and achievement," Peach said.

The Independent Scholars Program, on the other hand, embodies what liberal arts can and should be: individualized, unrestrained by regulations, open to self-expression and targeted at passion, not standardized success.

Bradley said that he was glad that "Middlebury trusts its students to be driven enough to grasp at what they want, even if the way isn't shown."

Even if one decides not to become an independent scholar, those in the program offered advice for stepping off the beaten path and forging out on one's own.

"Revive the liberal arts," advised Peach, "if not 'officially' then do so simply and powerfully in the comfort of your own mind, in the comfort of a cozy chair with an unassigned book in hand, or in the company of your favorite professor, questioning and listening."

Davis analyzes race, gives Obama edge

By Theodore May
FEATURES EDITOR

On Feb. 20, Professor Emeritus Eric Davis was introduced to thunderous applause in a standing-room-only Dana Auditorium as the latest speaker in the Faculty Lecture Series. Introduced by the Dean for Faculty Development and Research Sunder Ramaswamy, Davis spoke for the better part of an hour about the race for the White House.

Quoting influential political scientist V.O. Key, Davis announced, "The voters are not fools." And that's what the voters have demonstrated to us this year.

Davis covered a wide array of electoral issues including historical elections, the Vermont primary, delegate allocation, and the influence of superdelegates.

At the conclusion of his lecture, Davis entertained more than 30 minutes of questions from the assembled audience.

Jack Lysohir '08.5, who attended the lecture, weighed in on Davis' approach. "Professor Davis's robot-like recall of election history as well as his quantitative precision regarding the nomination process definitely helped to elucidate today's races."

Looking ahead to the remaining primaries and caucuses, Davis discussed the three most important remaining contests for the Democrats: Ohio, Texas and Pennsylvania. Ohio and Texas vote on March 4, and Davis asserted that if Senator Hillary Clinton can survive those two, she faces a friendlier demographic makeup in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania, said Davis, is an "old-fashioned, organization-dominated Democratic state" with the second-oldest population the

country. Seniors have tended to break disproportionately for Clinton in this election.

Attracting chuckles from his audience, Davis mentioned that the last time the Vermont primary (and its 23 delegates) counted was in 1988, when Michael Dukakis was competing for the nomination against Jesse Jackson and Al Gore. Davis also mentioned that the deadline for voter registration was Wednesday.

Once it became clear that neither Senator Barack Obama nor Clinton would seize momentum and waltz to the nomination, voters and media outlets alike began a complicated process of delegate counting. Delegate allocation rules, explained Davis, vary between the two parties. The Republicans, he noted, give out delegates on a state-by-state winner-take-all basis, whereas the Democratic Party in each state gives out delegates on a roughly proportional basis.

Smiling, Davis noted that Clinton would be the Democratic nominee if her party allocated delegates on a winner-take-all basis like the Republicans.

"I am not aware of a single system other than the United States where proportional representation is used that has a two, and only two, party system," Davis said.

Now that Obama has won 11 straight contests and holds the overall delegate lead, many have begun to question the viability of Clinton's candidacy. At this point, admits Davis, it is almost impossible to believe that Clinton could overtake Obama in pledged delegates.

Clinton, however, has two recourses. For one, she could push to have the discounted

delegates from Florida and Michigan reinstated. Davis recounts that the Democratic National Committee permitted only four states to move their contests before Feb. 5. When Florida and Michigan violated those rules, they were stripped of their delegates and all candidates pledged not to campaign there, though the election was still held. Clinton won both and now argues that those delegates must be seated so as not to alienate those voters in November.

Clinton could also try to woo superdelegates, party elite who are given a vote at the convention. Re-established in 1984 to prevent a contested convention, superdelegates may make it just that in 2008.

Guided by history, Davis warned that an election (or nominating process) that did not follow the will of the people could spell serious trouble for the Democrats. In 1824, he noted, Andrew Jackson beat John Quincy Adams in the electoral vote count but failed to secure a majority. The election then went to the House of Representatives, which elected Adams. Four years later, Jackson was elected and the country underwent a serious realignment.

At the end of his lecture, perhaps sensing that his tone had been too tough on Clinton, Davis closed on a sentimental note. Davis said he could sympathize with Clinton because she is not a natural politician but rather, like him, more of a wonk. While arguing that she will likely not win the nomination, Davis suggested that she might make an excellent Supreme Court Justice, to be appointed by Obama, should he win the general election.

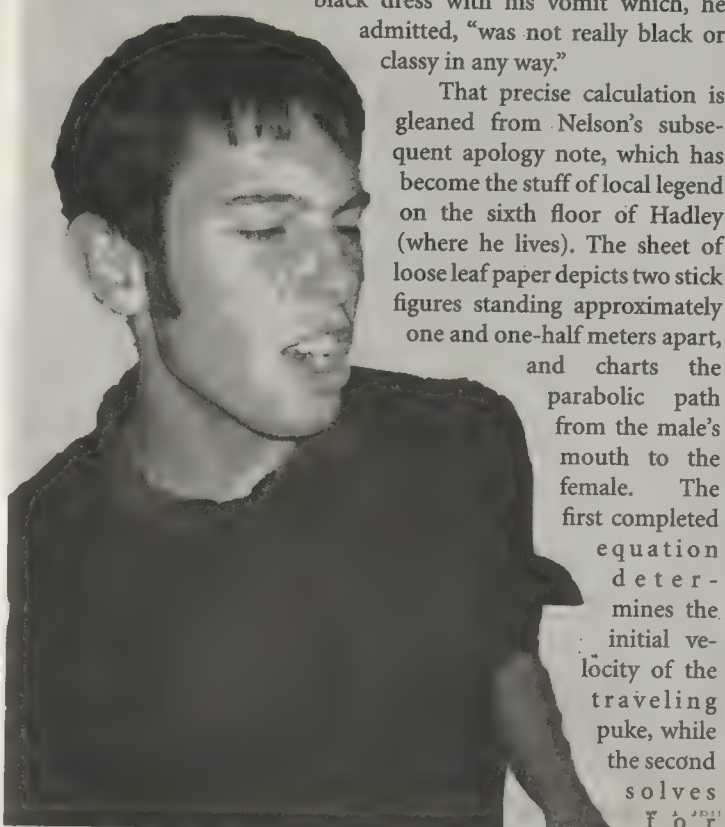
campuscharacter

Prince of Puke!

Nat Nelson '11 dances his way into our hearts

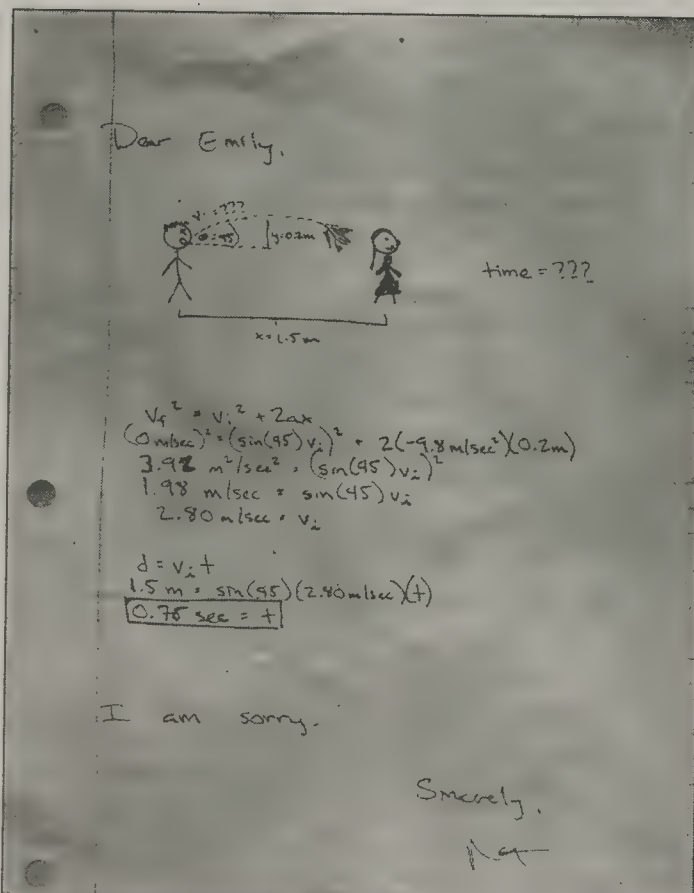
By Tess Russell
FEATURES EDITOR

Back in September, when Nat Nelson '11 realized that he was about to throw up on floormate Emily McDonald '11, he apologized — roughly 0.76 seconds before the impact — for tainting her classy black dress with his vomit which, he admitted, “was not really black or classy in any way.”



Courtesy

That precise calculation is gleaned from Nelson's subsequent apology note, which has become the stuff of local legend on the sixth floor of Hadley (where he lives). The sheet of loose leaf paper depicts two stick figures standing approximately one and one-half meters apart, and charts the parabolic path from the male's mouth to the female. The first completed equation determines the initial velocity of the traveling puke, while the second solves for time.



The apology note that turned Nelson into a chick magnet.

Courtesy

Nelson maintains that he has been secretly obsessed with McDonald ever since he started following her illustrious swimming career several years back. When they both arrived at Middlebury, he knew the stars were aligning in his favor, and he does not even see the vomit incident as a setback.

“I’m pretty sure it was the first time that any substance of mine touched any part of her,” he said. “That’s got to count for something. Besides, you can’t imagine how many girls I’ve gotten from that story.”

The Concord, N.H.-native is a member of the cross-country team, but that is just one of many campus activities in which he participates.

“I usually eat in the cafeteria,” he deadpanned. “And I’m a very active dancer.”

Active indeed. The exact nature of Nelson’s smooth stylings is admittedly hard to put into words — witnessing him in action, the character of Elaine from “Seinfeld” comes to mind — but a few of his friends did give it their best shot.

“He looks like a coked-out mongoose,” said Sean Maye ’11.

Jake Moritz ’11 agreed that Nelson’s moves are “truly dysfunctional.”

But Nelson, a self-proclaimed “sexual deviant,” has bigger things on his mind — namely, upping the visibility of his Facebook persona.

“I was recently lamenting that I only have 25 friends on Facebook, but at least I’ve asked all of them out more than five times,” he said. I cautioned that he might encounter a barrage of new friend requests after this article was published, but he was unperturbed.

“It’s OK if they all want a piece of me,” he said. “It’s like a little piece of hope.”

Next on the agenda? Spring Break, baby! When Nelson suggested a jaunt to Kosovo, aptly pointing out that it is a “happenin’ place,” one of his fellow travelers admitting to not knowing where the newly independent nation-state is located.

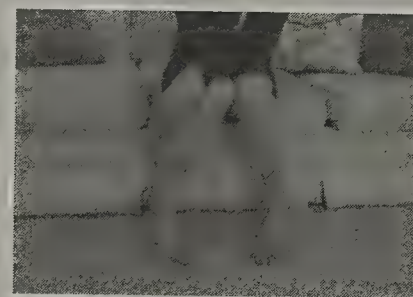
“Well,” responded Nelson earnestly, “there’s no better way to learn!”

Indeed, it seems that this kind attitude and perpetual optimism is a characteristic of Nelson’s even more marked than his dancing skills or his physics moxie.

“Nat is actually the happiest person I have ever met,” Moritz said. “I don’t know anyone who smiles as much as he does.”

Nowhere is this spirit of inclusiveness more apparent than when Nelson speaks of his beloved floor — his home away from home here at Middlebury.

“Hadley Six comes under a lot of fire for being, perhaps, a little more social than some other freshman floors,” he said. “But I want to show them the wonderful community we foster here. Anyone can come up at anytime and they’ll get a nice hello and maybe even a dance.”



The D-spot

by Dina Magaril

On a campus as green as Middlebury’s we may not think twice about recycling, but simply do it, an action that when applied to waste products is completely beneficial to the environment. But have we absent-mindedly started to apply this policy to our relationships? In Middlebury, we all too often sexcycle. Sexcycling can be defined as the following: “to undergo reuse by passing on previous thrown out hookups onto one’s friends.”

Sexcycling is not helping the environment, more specifically, the social/potential relationship environment at Middlebury. Unlike the technologies employed in turning a Coke bottle into a Gucci coat lining, a sexcycler and sexcyclee will be the same person on Friday night that they were on Saturday. That guy who treated your friend like a used deck of cards, playing her week after week. Well, he’s still the same guy and just because he’s sexcycled doesn’t mean he has been sent back to the factory for a new shiny packaging. That girl who couldn’t commit to either you or her high school boyfriend? Sleeping with your roommate is probably not going to change her mind. Of course, there are those rare occasions where the sexcycling process actually proves beneficial, and that girl or guy that didn’t work for you ends up really happy with your friend, but this is usually the exception, not the norm.

But to understand the essence of sexcycling, we must first look at what causes us to sexcycle in the first place. The number one reason? Limited resources. We are a school of about 2,400 students. If we estimate that there are 600 students per grade and an even male to female student ratio and we are hooking up with an average of five people per grade per year per social circle, then by senior year, our resources are close to running out. If you thought greenhouse gases were scary, imagine the possibility of a celibate senior year.

And so, out of fear that this is the end of the line, we recycle. We call up our sophomore hook up. We look through our phones for names we could have missed, for potential mates we may have overlooked when we were too busy being picky. That boy from your freshman hall finally went through his growth spurt and after his acne cleared up isn’t looking so bad. That cute blond from your writing seminar? Finally got those braces off and is looking her age. So we make do with the resources we have. We reconnect. We trade. We tap that and pass that.

Now, aside from the obvious health repercussions of non-safe sexcycling — just cuz’ your friends did it doesn’t mean it’s clean — there are emotional repercussions from this dangerous practice. Sure it may be funny at first to talk about X, Y and Zs back mole, or how A never changes his sheets, but eventually, sexcycling brings too much out to the open. Sex should be a personal experience, shared between the two or three or four people engaging in it. It should not be an open forum of what he/she did/said/moaned. In sexcycling, one needs to use discretion. A hookup that you threw away may have more meaning to its next user, and just because you’ve been there, done that, doesn’t mean you need to compare notes and keep ongoing updates. Sexcycling is something that will inevitably happen on a campus as small as Middlebury, so let’s be smart about it. Let’s keep our garbage separate from what can be successfully recycled, and let’s be conscientious about the plain old simple truth that one person’s trash is another person’s treasure.

winners&losers

What’s hot and what’s not on campus and in pop culture?
The Campus gives its weekly report.

FEATURES EDITORS

Winter Carnival Ball

Paying \$18 dollars
for tickets

Two words: beer garden.

Come on Midd, that’s
like three Grille dinners.

Diablo Cody

Having to sit through
all those montagesThe “Juno” screenwriter proved
that strippers can be winners too.No wonder this year’s ceremony
was the least watched in recent
years.The Vermont
primaryHaving to vote
absenteeIf you’re a Vermont resident, con-
grats! Go vote on March 4.Everyone knows they don’t really
count those, but there’s always
2012.

Middlebury students snow their stuff

Photography by Bente Madson
and Denise Hofmann

by Andrew Throdahl

Are snow-
men and igloos the
limits of snow's artistic
capabilities? Did you ever think of
a winged pig could be crafted from
the harvest of winter? 2008's Winter
Carnival witnessed the reinstallation of
the Snow Sculpting Competition, en-
abling Middlebury students to see their
wildest artistic visions constructed,
and then shortly thereafter tragically
destroyed. The Middlebury Campus
got in touch with this year's
snow sculpture competition, but
too frostbit.

With adherence to tradition on the minds of 2008's
Winter Carnival organizers, led by Nicolas Solih '10, the
popular snow sculpting competition was reinstated.

The snow sculpting competition used to be a fun
and important part of the Carnival and for the first time
in many years we successfully brought this event back,"
says Solih. "It allowed students to put on their gloves and
winter jackets, and really get out in the snow, and have a
good time."

The competing teams, each representing different
commons, were judged by the Winter Carnival Commit-
tee. Wemacott Commons won gold with their complex, life-sized depiction of a beirut game.
Ross Commons came in second for a sculpture of a wolf, and Brunner Commons in third for
"enlarged" snow flakes.

Cook Commons created a flying pig inspired by African fertility wood carvings. Edzie
'10 explained the sculpture: "My design drew inspiration from the Cook Commons mascot, hence
the pig with the wings, but also because of 'Let's Talk About Sex' month I sort of integrated a bit
of Ghanaian fertility art, which is why the pig has six enormous boobs and a very large posterior."

It felt like a throwback to the college
experiences of yesteryear that are
so rare today with increasing work-
loads and electronic entertainment.

—Alexander Benrpe '09

in the first time for 23 years — it felt like a throwback to the college experiences of yesteryear that
are so rare today with increasing workloads and electronic entertainment.

Alexander's team was comprised of sophomores Matthew Labunka, Kristen Luterick, Scott
Zolkes and Kate Lupo.

"We also had some help from Tenzing Sherpa '10, Sarah Eleryat '09 and Avery Finch '09,"
Benrpe added. "Overall the real person who deserves a prize though is Nick Solih. Solih has seri-
ously restored Winter Carnival to its former glory in a single weekend."

editors' picks

28 **The Invention of
Printing**
CFA Room 221
4:30 p.m.

The invention of printing in China
in the Fifth Century of the Common
Era was one of the greatest advances in
the history of world civilization. Colin
Mackenzie, curator of Asian Art, gives a
lecture exploring the history of printing
in East Asia.

29 **Arts Week Kick-
Off**
CFA Room 221
6:30 p.m.

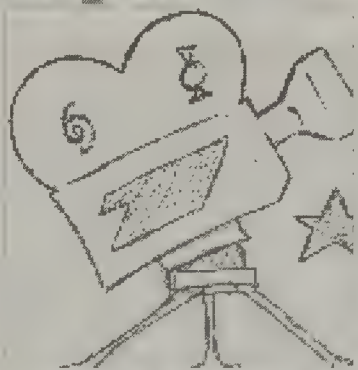
Come listen to Middlebury gradu-
ates discuss making music for a living,
in addition to some impromptu perfor-
mances. Alumni include Laura Thomas
'96, Chris Farrell '98 and Jeff Vallone
'97.5.

Inland Empire
Dana Auditorium
3 and 8 p.m.

Inaugurate March with this artsy
thriller from auteur David Lynch ("Blue
Velvet," "Twin Peaks," "Mulholland
Drive"). The convoluted plot involves the
murders of two Polish actors in an unfin-
ished Polish film.

01 02 **Tallis Scholars**
Mead Memorial
Chapel
8 p.m.

The Tallis Scholars are prob-
ably the most respected interpreters
of early vocal music, and return to
Middlebury to perform what conduc-
tor Peter Phillips calls the choral mas-
terpiece of the Renaissance: Tomas
Luis de Victoria's Requiem.



THE REEL CRITIC

SPECIAL EDITION

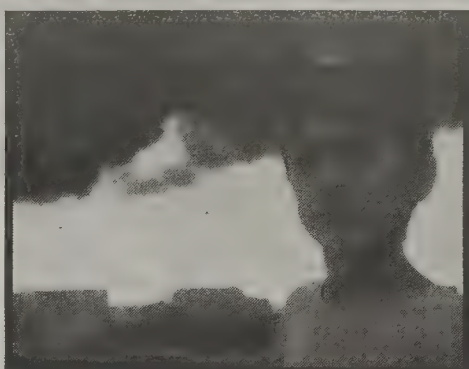
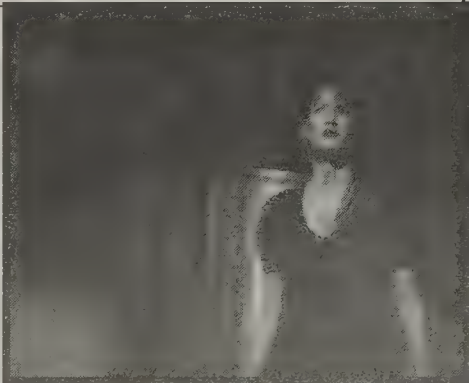
by Jason Gutierrez

So here we are, three weeks into a new semester. The excitement of new classes has passed and the luster of this new semester has worn a bit. At this point, or if not now perhaps later on in the semester, I suspect a few of you might be sitting around one weekend night thinking to yourself, "Man, I really want to go to the movies, but I have no idea what's worth watching." Well, fear not, for I am here to break down, week by week, what films are worth watching, either here on campus or in Burlington, this semester.

Let's begin with this coming weekend, where the Hirschfield Film Series will be screening David Lynch's bizarre opus "Inland Empire." For those familiar with Lynch's work, especially "Mulholland Drive" and "Eraserhead," "Inland Empire" will be a welcome break from films that rely on things like plot and character. Unable to find the proper words to describe the film I have told friends, "It's like when Lynch pulls the rug out from underneath you in 'Mulholland Drive,' except it happens for the entire film." "Inland Empire" is as close to avant-garde as mainstream cinema can get. It's a terrific mind bender that can really open your eyes up to just how wide the possibilities are for a film if the right man is at the helm.

The weekend of March 7 finds us welcoming a new Jason Statham film to the Burlington multiplexes. Under normal circumstances this wouldn't be something to get excited about, but this time the movie, "The Bank Job," actually looks good. The title pretty much sums up the plot, which revolves around the true story of a 1971 bank heist in London. It doesn't look to be anything groundbreaking, but it does look to be entertaining and not terrible. Worth a watch if just for the fact that the last movie Statham made that was worth watching was 2001's "Snatch." Lunar eclipses happen more often, so we should take advantage of this rare event.

This brings us up to the week of March 14 and the release of Michael Haneke's "Funny Games," a reportedly shot-for-shot remake of his 1997 Austrian film of the same name. The film attempts to tackle the weighty subject of violence in media and culture by portraying extreme acts of violence on-screen.



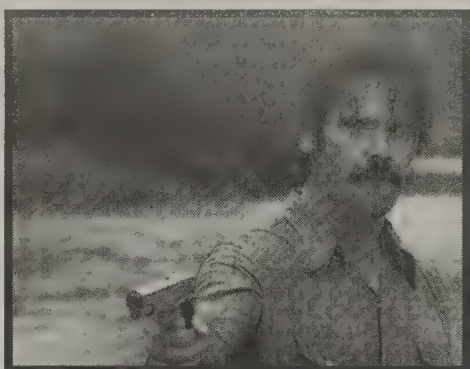
Clockwise from top right: "The Wind that Shakes the Barley," "No Country for Old Men," "Iraq in Fragments" and "Inland Empire."

It's a fine line to walk without coming off as condescending, but Haneke more or less succeeds. Be forewarned, however, that the Austrian version of "Funny Games" is extremely difficult to watch at times and I suspect that this American remake won't be any easier, but if you were a fan of Stanley Kubrick's 1971 film "A Clockwork Orange," my suspicion is that you'll find much to like here.

Ah, and so arrives Spring Break! Cancun? Miami? Nassau? If you're like me, you're staying around here. If you are around Midd for the break, or if it's raining in one of those tropical places, you can always go see, "4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days," winner of the Palme d'Or at last year's Cannes Film Festival, which tells the story of a woman trying to get an abortion in Romania during the final years of Communism. Or you can go outside and do something active — both are good options.

As you get back on campus at the beginning of April you might consider checking out "The American Astronaut," which the Web site for the Roxy Theater in Burlington assures is "coming soon," and hopefully this means the beginning of April. The film itself is several years old and currently available on DVD, but it would be worth it to see it on the big screen. To try and describe the film would be an exercise in futility, but I like *Entertainment Weekly's* attempt (they call it, "a Laurel and Hardy skit directed by Salvador Dali").

So this brings us to April 11 and another Hirschfield Film Series screening. This time it's a documentary called "Iraq in Fragments." Filmed during 2003 and 2004, the film is a ground-level look at Iraq since the beginning of the American invasion and occupation. We see the country from the perspective of an 11-year-old Sunni boy, a young Shiite cleric and Kurdish workers. Director James Longley has crafted a uniquely apolitical film that is less interested in making a political statement and



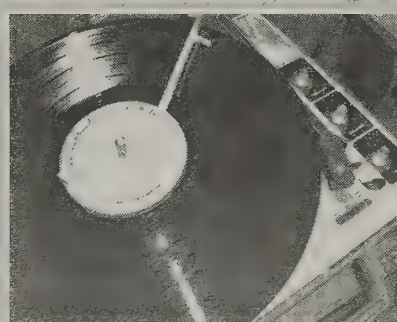
Courtesy

concerned more with creating a portrait of a country that is tearing itself apart and the daily lives of those who live in that country. It's a beautiful film that I wholeheartedly recommend.

To accompany the presumably beautiful weather that will be gracing our campus during the middle weeks of April, we have two dark and bloody free Friday films: the Coen Brothers' "No Country for Old Men" and Tim Burton's interpretation of "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street." Both are fabulous films that have garnered so much attention over the course of the awards season that they scarcely need more attention by me, except to say that if you don't go to another movie this semester, go to either, or both, of these. "No Country" is better, but "Sweeney Todd" is more fun, so choose accordingly.

Finally, the Hirschfield Film Series brings us "The Wind That Shakes the Barley" on Saturday, May 2. The film, which won the Cannes Film Festival's Palme d'Or in 2006, received modest distribution in the United States over the course of last summer and has since been released on DVD, but has gone, to my knowledge, largely unseen. It's a shame because it was one of the best films that made its way to American theaters last year. It tells the story of the Irish revolution from the perspective of men who were, more or less, foot soldiers fighting the British in fields. The film stars the fabulously talented Cillian Murphy, who turns in a marvelous performance as one of these foot soldiers. This is a great film to end the semester.

There is one more free Friday film after "The Wind That Shakes the Barley" (it's the enjoyable but overrated "Charlie Wilson's War"), but it's on the last day of the semester and really, what are you doing watching a movie on the last day of the semester? Happy viewing.



for the record

by Melissa Marshall

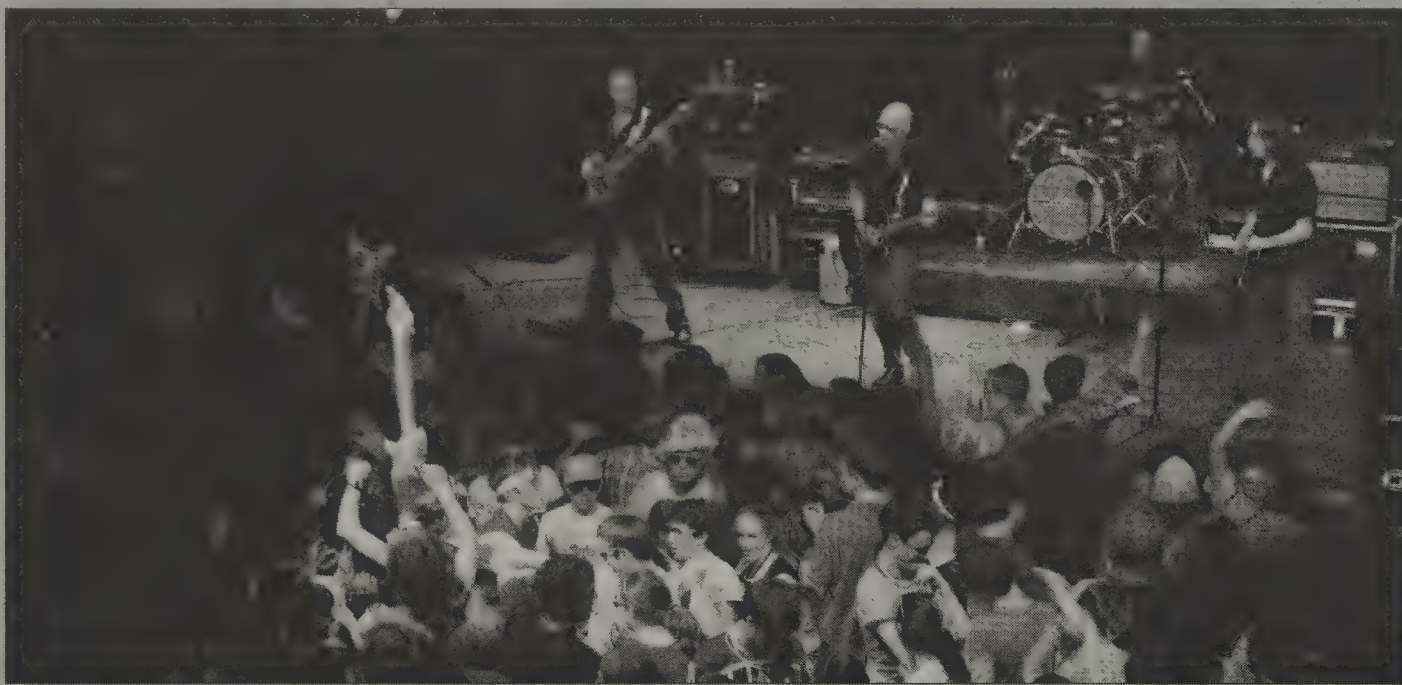
Bradford Cox of last year's lauded experimental psych-rock quintet Deerhunter has never been accused of conformity. A sufferer of Marfan syndrome — a genetic disorder of the connective tissue that gives him unnaturally long and spindly limbs — the front-man's stage performance echoes of post-modern art as much as his music. From old-maid dresses as fashion statements to deep-throating the microphone to performing acts of self-abasement in true Iggy Pop form, Cox has subscribed to the philosophy of rock as spectator sport with his shock-worthy show aesthetics.

Despite his loud personality, his distinctive sound has had a more shaking reverberation within the blogosphere. Deerhunter — and Cox — are no gimmick or sideshow stop on the road to prog-pop paradise (I think it's somewhere in Seattle) as was proven by their May 2007 *Fluorescent Grey EP*. A follow-up to February 2007's *Cryptograms*, the EP glows as their tightest, most focused endeavor to date while still harboring the echoing, exploratory drone that has become a trademark tone. Where *Cryptograms* was impeded by an immature feel bred by an obsession with the unconventional — an obsession that resulted in the release resembling mundanity — *Fluorescent Grey* gained a grounded-sound from those growing pains with its attention to melody and structure instead of layering and pretentious guitar loops. And while some of the transformation has to be credited to Kranky — one of the mixing masterminds behind Montreal's God Speed You Black Emperor who helped out on the disc — it is apparent that Cox takes his music much more seriously than his Victorian party frocks may suggest. So it's not surprising that Cox ditched the drummer all together and decided to march completely to his own tune with his life-long solo project Atlas Sound.

Atlas Sound's first full-length release, *Let the Blind Lead Those Who Can See but Cannot Feel*, picks up where the *Fluorescent Grey EP* leaves off. Leaning more towards ambience-induced-soundscapes, the Feb. 19 release abandons the grunge undertones that Cox endorsed earlier in his career. Just because he is currently flirting with a composed sound does not mean that Cox is trying to cozy up to the mainstream. From the opening track, "Ghost Story," featuring the voice of a small boy haltingly retelling a story over the disjointed hum of a sampled glockenspiel, to the wordless closing title-track, *Let the Blind* betrays that the avant-garde is still Cox's preferred bed-partner. The only cut that even closely resembles an A-side is "River Card." But even its catchy drums and ethereal harps cannot mask the ominous, amphibious whisperings.

Unlike the *Fluorescent Grey EP*, many tracks lack lyrics, and those that are ornamented with Cox's Meredith Monk-esque vocal experimentation loop the same couple of lines — increasing the trancelike tone of the album as a whole. The simplicity of the songs' structures adds a sense of plaintive honesty and intimacy, allowing this record to succeed where *Cryptograms* failed. On "After Class," Cox commands, "Strip down, strip down" — which is exactly what he did on his solo endeavor. He stripped away ostentatious instrumentation, superfluous swells and eight-minute sprawling tracks to reveal a record that is as exceedingly experimental as it is nakedly simple.

While he has been recording under the moniker Atlas Sound since the sixth grade, *Let the Blind Lead Those Who Can See but Cannot Feel* not only showcases Cox's transformation into indie-icon, but it will also force the hot-spot Georgia scene to open its mind large enough to accept the musician's uncommon appearance and even more unique sound.



Ryan Scura

BLAST FROM THE PAST

80s cover band Orange Crush rang in eight years worth of Middlebury gigs this past Thursday, rocking out to the likes of Journey, Michael Jackson and The Proclaimers for an energetic audience of costumed Midd-kids strumming along with blow-up air guitars.

CFA channels past for 15th anniversary celebration

By Alexxa Gotthardt
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Rewind about a hundred years. The early 20th century was a time of political upheaval, economic uncertainty and also a whole lot of avant-garde artistic innovations. Art schools in Paris and New York were brimming with young pupils ready to take on the world with their wild inventions and wilder personalities. Artists were running a contagious fever of creativity, and what better way to get it out into the public by joining forces and throwing a party. Enter the Beaux-Arts Ball, a tradition that began in Paris in the late 1800s at the École des Beaux-Arts as a way of bringing artists of various disciplines together in a social setting. Later adopted by a group of New York City artists, the ball became a raucous tradition in the 1920s and 1930s where artists, architects, musicians, actors, dancers, filmmakers and friends toasted art with lots of champagne and danced the night away. Elaborate costumes were required.

Middlebury has similar reason to fete, and so it will on March 6-9 in celebration of the dedication and 15th anniversary of the Mahaney Center for the Arts (MCFA). A whole weekend of activities has been planned around the anniversary — and its culminating event? A Beaux-Arts Ball where the arts will be celebrated with food, drink, music, dancing and hopefully, according to the coordinators, many a crazy costume.

Built in 1992, the 10,000-square-foot MCFA is the primary location for arts activities and performances on the College campus. The structure, described by its architects (architectural firm of Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer) as similar to a chocolate chip cookie or series of gift boxes — main common areas connect many specialized rooms and exhibition and performance spaces — houses the Middlebury College Museum of Art (MCMA), a concert hall, the Seeler Studio Theatre, a dance theatre and practice rooms, a music library, practice spaces for the music and theatre departments and Rehearsals Café. At each turn, a different cross-section of the Middlebury arts can be found.

It is this multi-dimensionality of the arts that the weekend of planned events seeks to honor and celebrate. The idea for the 15th An-



Daniela Dimitrova

The CFA will be officially christened the Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts next weekend.

niversary Celebration, according to Marketing Manager of the MCFA Liza Sacheli Lloyd, began in the spring of 2007 when the Committee of the Arts met to discuss their plans for the coming year. "The chairs of the six academic arts departments, plus leaders from the Museum of art and the Performing Arts Series, all agreed that they'd like to do something collaborative to celebrate the Center for the Arts' 15th birthday," said Sacheli Lloyd. "From there, the idea for a concentrated weekend of arts activities and a Beaux-Arts ball was born."

Director of the Arts Glenn Andres also emphasized the importance of the celebration as an active bringing-together of the Middlebury arts. "The idea is to showcase all of the arts at Middlebury as well as celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the MCFA facilities," said Andres. "It is pretty remarkable to note how much of this is 'home-grown.'"

All academic arts departments have contributed to the event — Theatre, Film, History of Art and Architecture, Studio Art, Music and Dance — with the help and participation of

staff, students and alumni. In addition, the Performing Arts Series, the Hirschfield Film Series and the MCMA will contribute events to the weekend's repertoire.

The four-day artistic tableau kicks off on Thursday, March 6, but the majority of events will occur on Saturday, March 8, when the tableau will transform into an extravaganza. The "Christian A. Johnson Symposium in the History of Art and Architecture" starts the day with a series of lectures by faculty and students centered on the theme of collaboration.

Then, at 7 p.m., a gathering to celebrate the dedication of the MCFA is slated to take place in the building's upper lobby. While the center's new name — Mahaney Center for the Arts — went into use at the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year, the ceremony will officially recognize the title and serve to toast Kevin P. Mahaney '84, chief executive of The Olympia Companies, a Portland, Maine-based real estate firm, for his support of the Middlebury Arts.

After the ceremony, three performances

set throughout the MCFA will begin at 8 p.m. Listen to the Dick Foreman Jazz Group's jazz repertoire in the MCFA concert hall, sit in on Dance Artist-in-Residence Leyya Tawil's dance company, Dance Elixir, perform "Capital Life Triptych" or head to the Seeler Studio Theatre to watch "Curtain Up: Scenes, Songs and Monologues Celebrating Theatre at Middlebury."

And if this diverse palette is not enough, student art exhibitions showcasing painting, photography, sculpture and video by students will be sprinkled around the MCFA and the MCMA's galleries will be opened late.

Finally, at 10 p.m., the 15th Anniversary Celebration Beaux-Arts Ball will commence. Open to everyone and unticketed, as most of the weekend's events are, the ball will celebrate the MCFA anniversary, the MCFA dedication and, perhaps most importantly, art itself amongst the songs of the Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble, festive food, two beer gardens and a host of over-the-top costumes. "Partygoers can expect dramatic, moving lighting—new lobby banners commemorating the building's 15th Anniversary and Dedication, a lavish spread of food and drinks from the Catering folks and lots of glittering white lights," said Lloyd.

Will it rival the Beaux-Arts Balls of the turn of the century? Only time will tell. It is certain, however, that the arts will not go underrepresented the weekend of March 6-9 at the College. In fact, the arts will be celebrated like they rarely are at Middlebury — with pomp, pageantry and collaboration. Andres underlined the resonance of a celebration of this scope and spectacle.

"Our individual arts programs provide the campus with a rich (almost dizzying) variety of student and guest performances and activities, but we seldom see the whole as more than the sum of the parts," he said. "If we take these activities in concert, it dramatizes how important a part is played by the Arts at Middlebury and the many ways that our students participate in those arts. What better time than the 15th anniversary and the rededication of the MCFA to shine a spotlight on the vital role of the Arts in campus life?"

A full list of events and event details can be found at www.middlebury.edu.



Spotlight on...Emily Kim Goldsmith '08

Emily Kim Goldsmith '08, winner of this year's Alan and Joyce Beucher Concerto Competition, will be playing the first movement of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in the College Orchestra concert on April 25. *The Middlebury Campus* caught up with the violinist on how she got started with music and what she plans to do with her \$200 of prize money.

The Middlebury Campus: How long have you been playing the violin and what got you started?

Emily Goldsmith: I started playing when I was five years old. So I guess, that makes 16 years. There's actually a funny story about how I got started. I was sitting in the back of the car with my parents, who were both musicians (they would always play classical music in the car) and of all the instruments I heard, I picked out the violin. I begged them from the time I was two if I could learn the violin.

MC: Why did you choose the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto for the Concerto Competition?

EG: I have wanted to play the Mendelssohn ever since I heard one of my teacher's students play it in middle school. A lot of my teachers were reluctant to teach it because it is the most popular violin concerto, even though it's probably one of the hardest as well. I have been working on it casually since my senior year of high school. I take lessons with Katherine Winterstein, and this is the first year that she has taught the Mendels-

sohn, although she's been playing it since she was 16. Teaching something and playing something you've been playing since you were little are very different things. My old teacher refused to teach the Mendelssohn because it drove one of her students nuts.

MC: Could you tell us what you plan on doing with your prize money?

EG: I'll probably end up saving it in some form for next year when I'm a starving college grad. But a kind of funny story is that I was being a real scrooge for Winter Carnival, and everyone was convinced that if I won, I should go to the Winter Ball, which I did. It ended up being a good night.

MC: How do you expect your past experiences playing with orchestras will effect playing the Mendelssohn?

EG: I won a concerto competition with my local youth orchestra in high school, and I played the Lalo Symphonie Espagnole. It's a big power trip in front of an orchestra. A lot of my friends are supportive of the Mendelssohn as a piece, and I'm glad that they won't be bored by the Mendelssohn. There was some stiff competition this year, but I got the feeling that since they made the competition more of a sponsored thing it has become more competitive and just a bigger deal. Everyone seemed like they were really prepared and really into it. I got lucky!

MC: What other music related projects do you have, or rather, are you practicing for, this semester?

EG: I'm trying to learn the second two movements of the Mendelssohn, which I won't actually perform in the concert. The third movement is really really difficult,



Andrew Ngeow

Emily Kim Goldsmith '08, winner of the annual Concerto Competition, strikes a pose.

so it wouldn't be feasible anyway. Troy also planned the concert around the first movement. I'm disappointed I won't get to play Ezra Axelrod's piece, which is on the program. And I'm working on a few selected movements from string quartets by Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Schubert. I'm playing part of Schubert's "Death and the Maiden," which I worked on last semester, for the CFA dedication ceremony next weekend.

MC: Do you plan to continue with music after you graduate?

EG: In some way, definitely. I'm not going to go to grad school for music, because I'm pursuing languages. I always want to play, and I get upset when I'm not playing, and when I'm not playing well. But it is something I want to maintain.

—Andrew Throdahl

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Men leave Ephs black and blue, unsure of what to do

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

ing from Albert Handy '08 and the inside play of Aaron Smith '09. Williams would again fight back, pulling to within two with under a minute left, and entered halftime trailing the Panthers 42-39.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

| | |
|------------|----|
| Williams | 59 |
| Middlebury | 96 |

The game was a tale of two halves, as Middlebury completely overwhelmed Williams in the latter period. After Troy Whittington hit a basket for the Ephs at the 11:33 mark, Williams would not score for the next 4:47.

By the time Williams found the basket again, the Panthers had put together a dominant 10-0 run and established a commanding 70-54 advantage.

The game only worsened for the Ephs over the final 11:33, as they connected on only one of their final 13 field goals. The Panthers, meanwhile, shot a spectacular 10-of-13 — including a perfect six-for-six from beyond the arc — and outscored Williams 36-5 during that time frame.

"We brought great defensive intensity and we executed well on offense," Smith said. "Everyone was on the same page and we never let up."

As the clock wound down under five minutes, Middlebury players and fans alike started to sense the victory. The starters were pulled with around two minutes to go, and

they exchanged hugs with coaches and teammates behind a thunderous ovation from the crowd. When the final buzzer sounded, the Panthers jumped up and down, their arms held high in a sign of victory. The moment could not have been better.

While overjoyed by the victory, the Panthers — looking to accomplish bigger and better things — are not going to celebrate for too long. The team understands that this is just the first part of its mission to win the NESCAC tournament and earn the automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament.

"It means a lot to get the first NESCAC postseason win for Middlebury," said Smith. "But we certainly aren't satisfied — this is just the first step in our goal to win the NESCAC tournament. Let's talk about records after that."

The Panthers have already suffered a 74-71 home defeat at the hands of Trinity on Jan. 26, so they know that they have their work cut out for them. Still, players are remaining optimistic.

"I like our chances going into the semifinals against Trinity," said Harris. "We're playing well to-

NESCAC TOURNEY: MEN'S BASKETBALL

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

1. Amherst

6:00PM TIPOFF

4. Bowdoin

3. Middlebury

8:00PM TIPOFF

2. Trinity

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

2:30PM TIPOFF

Champion

Notes: Amherst hosts all remaining games. Champion receives automatic bid to the D-III NCAA tournament.

gether on both sides of the court. Our defense was great on Saturday, and we'll have to keep it up going into next weekend. On offense, we have so many weapons that if someone is having an off day, another player will step up. When everyone is playing well, we're a very dangerous team."

Now they have a playoff victory in their pocket to prove it.



Jeff Patterson

Williams' two-time National Coach of the Year, Dave Paulsen, could only scratch his head in disbelief, as his Ephs were powerless in stopping the potent Panther attack on Feb. 23.

Panthers swim to second

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

den cheeks filled every window as the bus slowly left the parking lot for the last time with this group.

Thirteen seniors will graduate this spring, more than at any other NESCAC school, leaving the team with a huge void of leadership and experience. Nevertheless, the younger Panthers are ready to rise to the challenge.

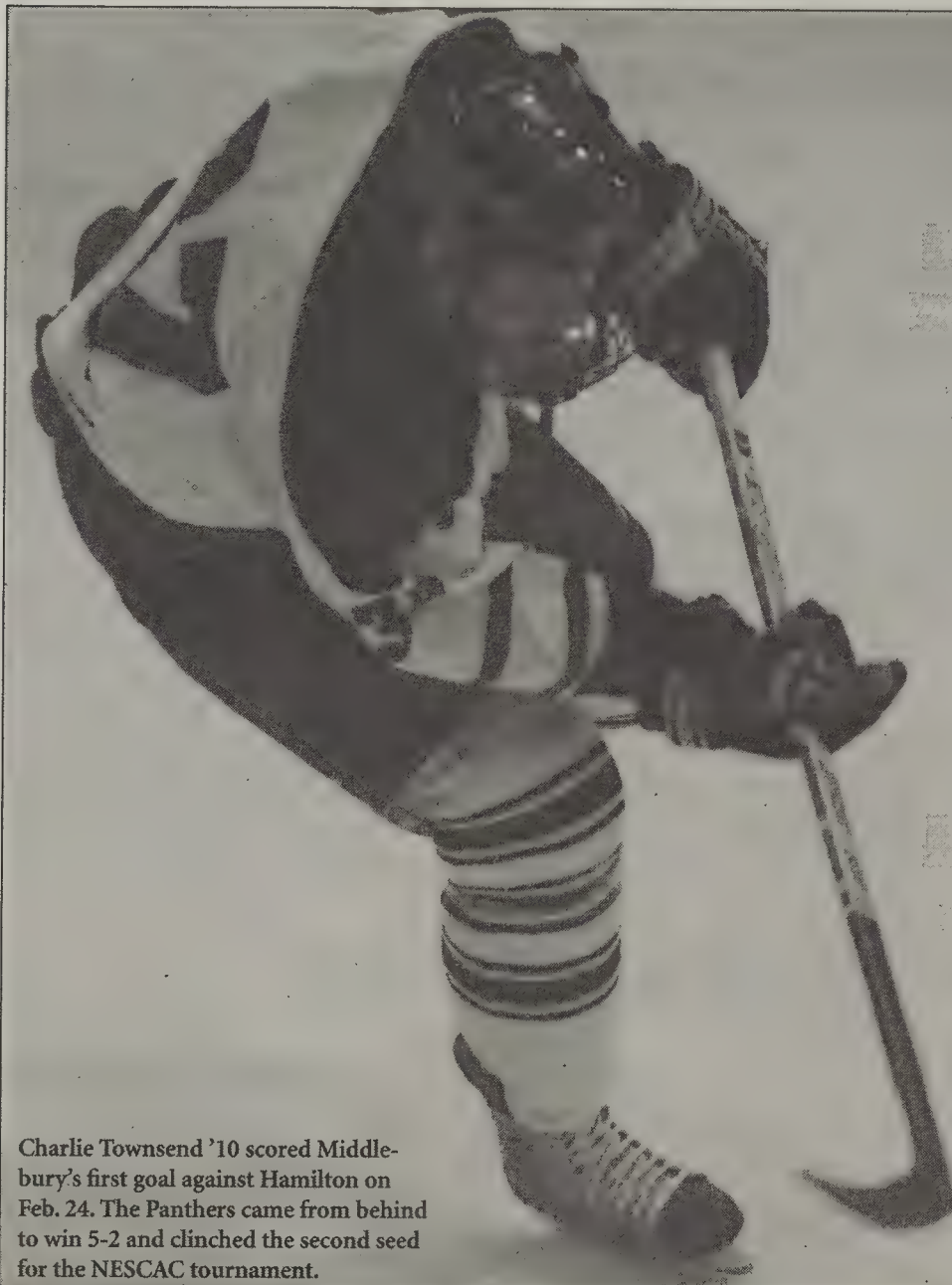
"It's going to be really hard without the seniors," said Annie Friedlander '11. "They are such a big part of the team. We'll miss them, but they have taught us how to lead a successful team and we are ready to take on

the challenge."

Friedlander's classmate Emily MacDonald '11 emphasized that point in her performance this weekend. She swam in four relay events, contributing to a first, third and two second-place finishes. She also placed second in both the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle, where she set a school record with a time of 52.04 seconds, shattering the previously held time by .45 seconds.

The swimmers who qualified for the NCAA finals head out to Oxford, Ohio on March 20 to compete against the best swimmers in the country and continue Middlebury's success this year.

Townsend '10 ends Hamilton's season early



Charlie Townsend '10 scored Middlebury's first goal against Hamilton on Feb. 24. The Panthers came from behind to win 5-2 and clinched the second seed for the NESCAC tournament.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

MacIntyre, like McDonald, does not want to take all of the credit for the goal, though. A quarter of the way through a second-period power play, co-captain Tom Maldonado '08 dove to the ice to save a stray pass and got it to an open MacIntyre.

"I blew it at first by making a bad pass and Tom saved it," said MacIntyre. "Then I got [the puck] back and was looking to pass because I'm not much of a goal-scorer. I think the goalie thought I was passing too. I just shot it. I guess even a blind squirrel finds a nut once in a while."

In this case, the blind squirrel found a net rather than a nut. But, no doubt, it was equally as satisfying.

Both McDonald and MacIntyre will admit that their four years of playing college hockey have passed too quickly. "My first game ever happened to be the Amherst game freshman year," said McDonald. "Then last night, lining up against Amherst, it felt like a blink of an eye. That game was here [in Middlebury] too, so it was like déjà vu."

It warrants repeating that the referees for the Dec. 11, 2004 game, Ryan St. Louis, Mike St. Louis and Mike Cross, were the same for Friday night's game, too.

A different crew of officials refereed Saturday's game with Hamilton. The Middlebury lineup, the result and the number of goals the Panthers allowed was, however, identical.

In both games the opposition scored first. And in both cases, the visitors were sent packing with a worse record.

"Both goals had been from bad bounces," said MacIntyre, when asked if the team ever got worried about being behind in both games.

"Anyway, we're going to win by more than one goal, hopefully."

And that they did. Co-captain Scott Bartlett '08 had two goals and assisted on two others. The Pittsford, N.Y. native certainly has conquered the Continentals in recent years. The right-winger has had eight points in his last four games against the only NESCAC school from New York.

Maldonado, another New Yorker on the team, piled up point after point this weekend. His three goals — one of which was an empty-netter — and one assist helped ensure that Amherst and Hamilton would leave Vermont empty-handed.

There is more déjà vu on its way for McDonald and company, as Williams College is slotted as the Panthers' next opponent. Middlebury beat the Ephs 5-1 in the opening round of last year's NESCAC tournament. The most recent meeting between the two teams was much closer, as Mickey Gilchrist's '08 goal with 2:23 left in the third period gave Middlebury a 2-1 win.

The Panthers need to win on March 1 if they are going to march into the NCAA tournament.

Tianze Ma

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

The signature event of Middlebury's long-standing tradition — the Winter Carnival — has always been the ski races at the Snow Bowl. While the Carnival continues to feature events such as the ice-show and a stand-up comedian, it is the day off to see the racers come down the mountain that makes the annual event so special. One of Middlebury's biggest stars in the 2008 Carnival was senior alpine captain Kristen Poehling '08, this week's featured athlete in a downhill version of "Inside the Locker Room."

Poehling, who herself lists the Middlebury Carnival as her favorite memory as a Panther athlete, led the women's Giant Slalom team this past weekend with a time of 2:01.03, capturing fourth place overall. It was a successful weekend for Panther skiing as they captured second place in the EISA Championships, finishing just behind rival Dartmouth. The LaCrosse, Wisc. native will be joined in this edition's questioning by her roommate, teammate and fellow captain Megan Hughes '08 as well as teammate Tucker Vest-Burton '09. Will the off-campus housemates have an advantage, or will the time commuting to

| Polling two friends about Krissie Poehling '08 | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| | Poehling | Vest-Burton | Hughes |
| Three people I'd want over for dinner? | Tiger Woods, Yvon Choinard and John Wood | Her three siblings: Bobby, Katie and Annie (0) | Sauvignon Blanc, Audrey Hepburn, Jack Johnson (0) |
| What brand are your racing skis? | Rossignol | Rossignol (1) | Rossignol (1) |
| Favorite ski resort in the United States? | Vail | Vail (1) | Vail (1) |
| Most memorable wipeout? | Coming home from the bar in heels | Face-plant at Cannon (0) | Wipeout? Never! (0) |
| Least favorite exercise? | Coach's 20 minute TV watchers | Hill sprints (0) | Brain excercises (0) |
| What should have won for Best Picture? | "Dirty Dancing" for the past 20 years | "Juno" (0) | "Vanity Fair" (0) |
| I'm deathly afraid of ...? | Snakes! I hate them with a passion | A morning without coffee (0) | The dishes (0) |
| final score | | 2 | 2 |

the Bowl and on the chairlift be enough for Vest-Burton to come out on top?

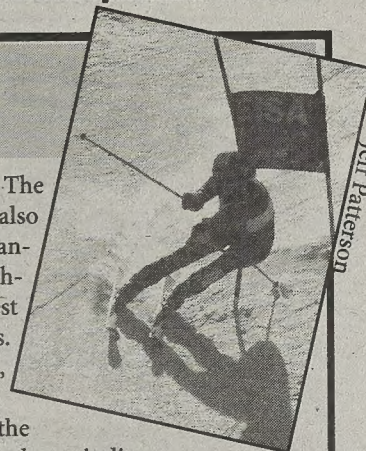
In what is becoming a very alarming pattern of low scores, the alpine teammates tied 2-2. Vest-Burton and Hughes both eas-

ily nailed the softball questions, Poehling's brand of racing skis and favorite resort. However, neither could identify Poehling's most memorable wipeout — a spill in the streets running home from the bar wearing

high heels. The teammates also failed in answering Poehling's biggest fear: snakes. However, Hughes' answer of "the dishes" is perhaps indicative of Poehling's unwillingness or fear of assisting her roommate in dishwashing duties. Her kitchen mess may be growing, but her trips through the gates have been quite clean throughout her four year career on the Middlebury ski team.

Poehling will have plenty of time to read her favorite author, Bill Bryson, on an upcoming cross-country flight to Montana when all three Panthers conclude their season with the NCAA Championships hosted by Montana State starting March 5. In what will be her last collegiate competition, look for Poehling's years of hard work doing "20-minute TV watchers" to pay off and for the Middlebury alpine team to conclude yet another successful season.

— Andrew Somberg, Staff Writer



Jeff Patterson

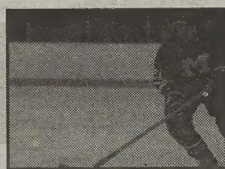
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

| Date | Sport | Vs. | Results | Comments |
|----------------------|--------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| 2/22 2/23 | Skiing | Middlebury Winter Carnival | 2nd of 15 | Andrew Wagner '09 skied terrifically and finished first in the giant slalom and third in the slalom. |
| 2/22 2/23 2/24 | Women's Squash | St. Lawrence William Smith Vassar | 9-0 W 7-2 W 7-2 L | Caroline Woodworth '09 went 3-0 on the weekend as she helped the Panthers finish 18th in the nation. |
| 2/22 2/23 | Men's Hockey | Amherst Hamilton | 4-2 W 5-2 W | Co-captain Tom Maldonado '08 tallied an assist and three goals over the weekend, including the game-winner over Hamilton. |
| 2/22 2/23 | Women's Hockey | Hamilton Wesleyan | 7-0 W 5-1 W | Karen Levin '08 was named the NESCAC Player of the Week after notching three goals and three assists over the weekend. |
| 2/23 | Women's Basketball | Tufts | 71-60 L | Emily Johnson '09 (23 points) was on fire from beyond the arc as she went 6-for-9 from international waters. |

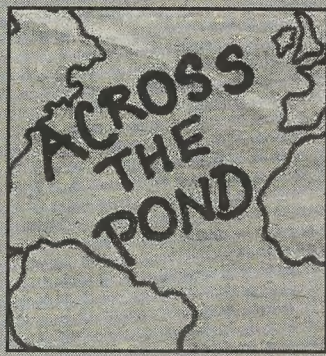
BY THE NUMBERS

| | |
|---------|--|
| 43 | Number of yellow signs a driver will see on his way back from the Snow Bowl, that indicate that there is a sharp curve in the road. |
| 43 | Blocks for center Aylie Baker '09 this season, one less than she had last year. |
| 43 | Steals for guard Tim Edwards '09.5 so far this season, the same number he had at the end of the season last year. |
| 43 | Number of defensive rebounds for Andrew Harris '08 so far this season. |
| "For 3" | Phrase used to describe how the men's basketball team scored 36 of its 96 points vs. Williams to advance to the semifinals of the NESCAC tournament. |

Editors' Picks



| Questions | Peter Baumann | James Kerrigan | Simon Keyes | Jeff Klein | Jeff Patterson |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Who will the women's hockey team play in the semifinals of the NESCAC tournament? | COLBY I expect the seeds to hold true, and the top four teams to advance to the next round. | CONN. COLLEGE After tying Conn. College twice during the regular season, the Camels will upset the Mules. | COLBY I don't foresee many surprises in the women's bracket. | CONN. COLLEGE There were zero upsets in the first round of the men's basketball quarterfinals. No way that trend continues. | COLBY Not that it really matters. They'll just be wasting gas, when they come to face a team that's world class. |
| Will Wesleyan upset Colby in the first round of the men's hockey tournament? | NO Wesleyan almost knocked them off a few weeks ago, but the Mules will rise to the occasion. | NO Middlebury won the NESCACs away from home last year, and it can do so again. | NO Just as in March Madness, the number-one seed does not lose in the first round. | NO I mean, I like upsets, but this is too much to ask of the Cardinals. | YES Cards' goalie Mike Palladino will pitch a shutout, just like Rob Palladino '09 did on April 7, 2007. |
| Will righties or lefties make more three-point shots against Trinity? | RIGHTIES I'm not a math guy, but the team has more righties than lefties, right? | RIGHTIES Despite Harris' '08 silky shot, I'm trusting "the field," which has converted on 166 attempts vs. Harris' 60. | RIGHTIES Like Anton Chigurh, I flipped a coin. | LEFTIES Harris '08 has been unstoppable from beyond the arc as of late. I expect him to go off against the Bantams. | LEFTIES Andrew Harris '08 will be left open a lot and will hit from the left, right and center. |
| Who will win on March 4, AC Milan or Arsenal? | AC MILAN I remember seeing a picture of them with a big trophy last year. | AC MILAN AC is my team in FIFA 2008. Expect at least a goal from Kaka, last year's Champions League stud. | AC MILAN There's no stopping the reigning champs, especially at home in Italy. | ARSENAL The seventh-grade travel soccer team I played on was the Arsenal. | AC MILAN They have eight players that only have one name. It won't even be a game. |
| Who will win, no. 12 Indiana or no. 15 Michigan State in a Big 10 battle? | MICHIGAN STATE They have been perfect at home, and will take advantage of the Sampson-less Hoosiers. | MICHIGAN STATE Four of their five losses have been on the road — the Spartans will avenge their early-season loss. | MICHIGAN STATE What a rough time for Hoosier basketball, and it's only going to get worse. | INDIANA The Hoosiers will right the ship under new interim coach Dan Dakich. | INDIANA This one's so easy — the Hoosiers won 80-61 last time — it's like stealing candy canes from a baby. |
| Career Record | 21-29 (.420) | 44-56 (.440) | 50-59 (.459) | 3-2 (.600) | 65-73 (.471) |



by Adam Clayton

As far as politics and sports go, the recent steroids drama unfolding in Congress, one that brought about more embarrassment and outrage than alleged torture by the CIA, illustrates how deeply ingrained sports are in American culture. Roger Clemens' fall from grace has caught the attention of those who, like me, don't really follow baseball. After all, it's kind of strange to see one of the sharpest partisan divides in government emerge over a man's alleged use of substances to gain advantage in a game. Or is it just a game? When the Justice Department and federal investigators are on the verge of launching a criminal investigation into a person, my common reaction is that guy must have embezzled, killed or done something of great moral perversity. But the reality is Clemens, albeit stupid and a cheat, doesn't merit even a visit to the House committee. Such silliness overshadows the more pressing dilemmas facing society, and tends to ignore the more-than-general consensus that Clemens is guilty, and his name and career should be tarnished for life as punishment.

So what can we take out of this circus revolving around Clemens, or even the Bonds fiasco of the past few years? Ideally, we wouldn't need laws or punishment to encourage our idols and rolemodels to behave in a virtuous way, but unfortunately sports tend to attract those who place competition and success above all else — including integrity. So settling for slightly less we hope that the laws and scorn brought down on those unfortunate-enough-to-get-caught serve as enticement for other players to stay on the straight and narrow. Yet, sometimes, it seems this is not what we really want, but merely the façade society presents to reassure itself. After all, the congressional hearing did not address the delicate issue that MLB ignored, or even condoned, the use of performance enhancements to enhance the appeal of the game. Did MLB wake up one day to realize that some of its best players had been abusing the rules for years? Are they really taking any steps beyond those required to maintain an appearance of respect for the game? Sure, you can create a few scapegoats and make them appear to be rogue players, but it's almost given that we've barely touched the surface of scandal. The commissioner and executives alike are seemingly more concerned with avoiding what happened to cycling and the Tour de France than truly being agents of rule and equality.

At worst, and probably more likely, these events will be seen by the performance enhancement industry and players alike as motivation, if not subliminal urging, to be more subtle and secretive. Common misperception is that anabolic steroids are the most widely used drugs in sports and will continue to be. But when sports such as chess adopt world anti-doping regulations, one has to wonder what drugs they are looking for. Popping a Ritalin before a game seems innocent enough, but what if you suddenly found yourself with the focus of Kobe, or the fearlessness of Ben Wallace, after taking one pill? The synonym 'nerves of steel' could soon be replaced with 'nerves of product 1wxy005'. Yet, given the desire of the human race to pursue the bigger and better, regardless of consequence or cost, one could reasonably predict the outcome — public outrage, focused vilification and a nostalgia and sadness that things have changed, but damn that was a sweet game last night!

Ski team finishes in first after day one

By Anna Furney
STAFF WRITER

In the tradition of saving the best for last, the Rikert Ski Touring Center and Middlebury's Snow Bowl hosted the 2008 EISA Championships for both alpine and Nordic athletes on Feb. 22 and 23. While Middlebury's Panthers have seen considerable opposition from the Dartmouth and University of Vermont (UVM) ski teams, they came into the weekend ready to defend the icy terrain and reputation of their home hill.

Defying the predictions of a clear forecast, the weather proved to be a challenge for the athletes as the winter elements of cold, snow and wind flew across the Ross trail in driving sheets.

The first run for Middlebury's women was quite unnerving for the spectators lining the finish corral, as they watched only three of the seven Middlebury athletes — Megan Hughes '08, Krissie Poehling '08 and Lindsay Kraft '11 — make it through the finish with clean runs. The trio was left with the weighty responsibility of scoring the necessary points from their individual finishes, to keep the team in the overall running for the weekend's title.

The conclusion of the women's slalom left UVM's Lyndee Janowiak in first, followed by skiers from the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and Dartmouth in the second and third perches on the day's podium. Coach Stever Bartlett was able to let out a sigh of relief after Hughes, Poehling and Kraft had secured the women's alpine team with fourth, ninth and 17th positions, a collection of enough cumulative points to maintain the team's standing as the Carnival front-runner.

On the men's side, it was Williams' Charles Christianson who emerged as the day's front-runner. Middlebury's Andrew "Billy" Wagner '09 followed

Christianson in hot pursuit, but failed to make up enough time in his second run to move up from fourth position after the first run. Other than Christianson, it was Middlebury and UVM who dominated the day's top 10, with Catamounts Marsh Gooding and Eric Gilbert capturing fourth and sixth, and Middlebury's Alec Tarberry '08 and Joey Swenson '08 rounding out eighth and ninth positions.

Down the mountain road a mile or so, Middlebury's Nordic team was fighting off



Jeff Patterson

Matt Johnson '08 (above) picks up speed during Saturday's 15K classic race, in which he finished in 14th. Below, Kelly Brush '08 skis the GS course as a fore-runner on her monoski.

their EISA challengers at the Rikert Ski Touring Center in Hancock. In the women's 5K

freestyle, Robyn Anderson '09 captured third place, behind Dartmouth skiers Susan Dunklee and Elsa Sargent. Cassidy Edwards '09 was the team's next fastest finisher in seventh place, while Claire Luby '10 followed close behind in ninth.

Patrick Johnson '11 led the Panthers in the 10K free with a solid fourth-place finish. Johnson was chased by teammates Tim Reynolds '09, who finished the day in eighth, and Matt Johnson '08 in 17th. The impressive finish by Patrick Johnson, in combination with the consistency exhibited in the finishes of

his fellow teammates, secured second-place overall for the male members of the Panthers' Nordic team after the first day.

Saturday's races at the Snow Bowl began with sun, live music and maple syrup in a series of events sponsored by the College's Carnival Committee in an effort to mobilize student-based support for both the College's athletes and the weekend's competition.

"The entire weekend was amazing," said Hughes, the alpine captain. "Middlebury Carnival is a tradition that really combines all the best things about the sport of ski racing."

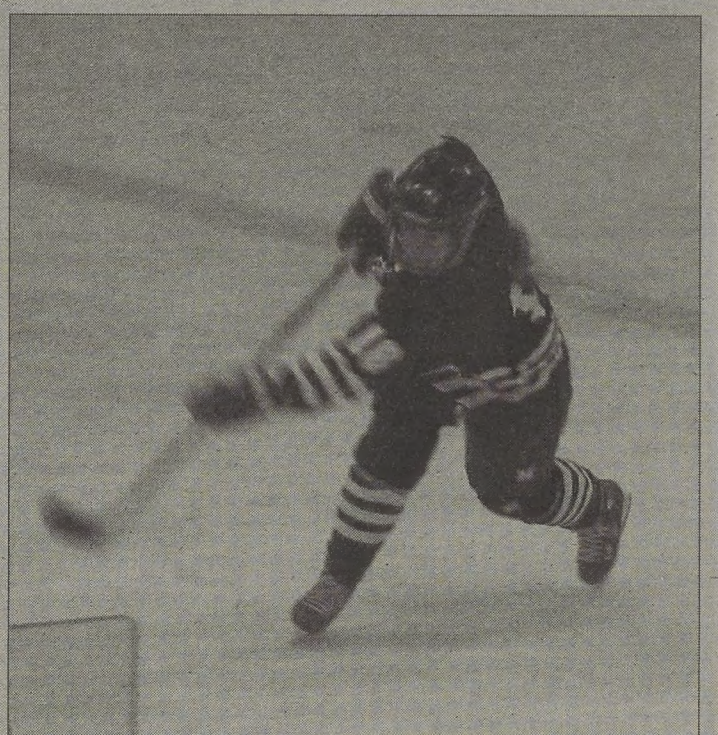
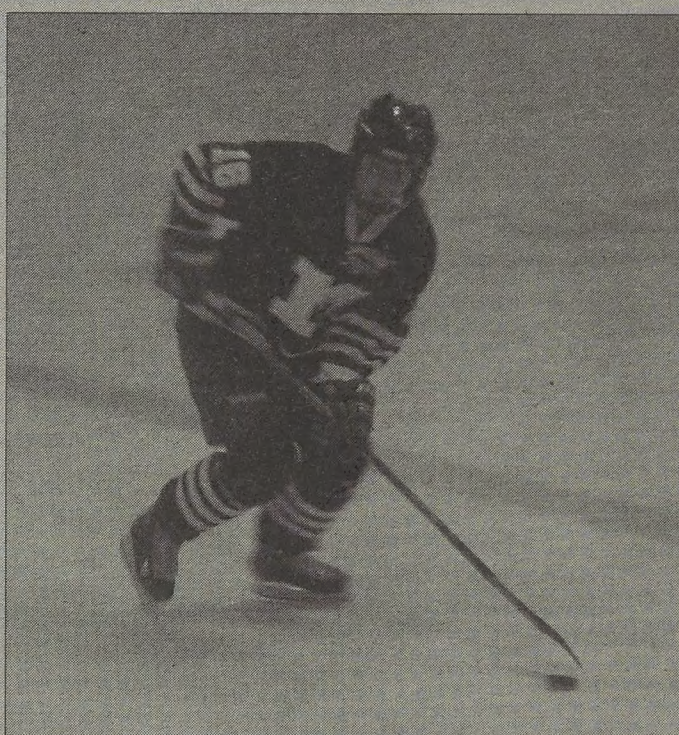
The unmitigated highlight of the weekend was watching team member Kelly Brush '08 forerun both the first and the second runs of Saturday's giant slalom (GS). Kelly's return to skiing was greatly celebrated amongst the ski racing community following a crash that she took while racing at Jiminy Peak two years ago, which left her paralyzed from the waist down. It was only fitting that she shared with her teammates, family members and home hill her impressive first full course on her

SEE DARTMOUTH WON, PAGE 27



Courtesy/Suse McLaughry

Alpine coach Stever Bartlett (lower right) poses with his seniors after their final Winter Carnival. 2008 marked the class' best finish at the Snow Bowl.



Rich Patterson

DIFFERENT NUMBER, SAME RESULT

After forgetting her number-27 jersey at Middlebury, defenseman Tania Kenny '08 (shown wearing number 16) did not forget her offense on Saturday, Feb. 23. She assisted on Erika Nakamura's '09 third-period goal, helping the Panthers beat Wesleyan 5-1 on the road and earn a bye in the first round of the NESCAC tournament. It is the third straight year in which the women have finished with the league's regular season title.

Dartmouth won on the fall-owing day

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

monoski.

UVM, UNH and Dartmouth led the field of women, sweeping first through third. Poehling was the Panthers' top finisher for the day, landing in fourth place — just off of the podium blocks. Hughes captured fifth place, just five-tenths of a second behind Poehling.

On the men's side, it was Wagner's win that highlighted the weekend's list of finishes for the Panthers. Wagner won both of the day's runs, quelling any doubts that the crowd and the competition may have had about his strengths in GS and putting him nearly a full second in front of UVM's Greg Hardy, who finished second. Strong finishes amongst Middlebury's men also came from senior Alec Tarberry, who ended up in fifth place — only three-hundredths of a second behind little brother Ace Tarberry of Dartmouth, who snuck in ahead of Alec to snatch fourth.

Behind Alec Tarberry were fellow seniors Swensson in sixth, Skip Heise in 13th, Zeke Davison in 26th and Clayton Reed — who, catching an edge and hip-checking over the course's final knoll, still managed to finish the day in 43rd. The Middlebury men's team deservedly won the GS event with its depth in talent and skill.

The reliability of the women's Nordic team in the 10K classical race helped to secure points for the weekend's overall standings. Top finishes from Edwards in ninth, Anderson in 12th and Luby in 14th allowed the hunt for the overall championship seem less daunting.

The men's 15K classic was led by athletes from UVM, Bates and Dartmouth. Middlebury's own Patrick Johnson was the top finisher for the Panthers in 12th. He was followed by his brother Matt in 14th.

While Dartmouth won the weekend's EISA championship with 928 points, it was

closely followed by Middlebury, which tallied 906 points, UVM with 868.5 points and UNH 796 points.

Sadly, Middlebury graduates a pool of extremely talented seniors — among them former U.S. ski team members, Junior Olympians and All-Americans.

"There is no saying what we could have done to have won the carnival," said Hughes. "I think everyone did their best this weekend, and, really, that's all that we can control. Collectively, our team is so enthusiastic and supportive. Winning the UVM carnival this year was incredible and we all wanted to continue winning. Knowing that it was possible gave us the tenacity to ski faster every weekend."

The team's drive is only accelerated by the instruction of Bartlett, who brings experience and enthusiasm to the group's dynamics.

Unsurprisingly, Bartlett was awarded the coveted position of EISA Coach of the Year at the weekend's culminating banquet on Friday night, only pointing out the obvious — that the team's ability in both athletics and instruction is amongst the best in the world.

Winter has indeed felt like a long and cold season, but there is no saying where the rest of the year will take the Panthers, as high-stakes races fill the months of March and April for both alpine and Nordic athletes. The Panthers are looking forward to the NCAA Championships planned for March 5-8 hosted by Montana State at Bozeman.

Spoken with a hint of optimism, Hughes knows that "we have the ability to bring home some podium finishes. Our team is stacked with talent and we have the potential to do some serious damage on the Western front."

So either book a flight to Montana or lean back in your desk chair, but either way, pay attention to Middlebury athletes as they take on their West Coast counterparts at this year's NCAA Championships.



Jeff Patterson

Dartmouth's Michelleanne Shields was in fourth place going into the final run of the slalom, but fell to 20th place after this wipeout. The Big Green still won the carnival, though.

Four-person relays formidable for track

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

of Demers, Magill, Weisman and Close fifth. The 4x800m team of Spring, Cailey Condit '10, Erin Toner '11 and Kaitlyn Saldanha '11 eighth.

Most of these showings were turned in by athletes who doubled- and even tripled-up. Krieg, for example, ran the 1,600m leg of the distance medley and also took fourth in the 3,000m run, and Magill ran the open 400m in addition to her two relays.

Rounding out the meet were Sarah Wilson '08, who finished eighth in the pole vault and Jen Currie '08, who finished fifth in the weight throw. In all, the team's 33 points were good for ninth place among the 40 schools who fielded qualifiers.

With fewer entrants, and several of those who did make the trip to Tufts fighting setbacks, the men's team took 22nd overall on the strength of O'Reilly's fifth place showing in the 800m, which Beatty was very happy to see come through.

"He's really fought through a lot, so it's really nice to see him back [from injuries in the fall and winter], and he's just going to get stronger," said Beatty.

O'Reilly's final time was 1:56.27, placing him very close to his rivals in a tightly spaced field, flush with NESCAC competitors.

O'Reilly's co-captain Jimmy Butcher '08, hampered by the flu, was 14th in the 5,000m. But Beatty expects him to regain his stride and continue to be a force in NESCAC races and beyond as the indoor season winds down and

outdoor competition begins.

Another veteran Panther, Pat Sedney '08, had a strong showing of 12-5 1/2" in the pole vault as he came back from a hamstring injury. Kris Williams '11 qualified in that event but did not compete, the result of a back injury.

Beatty is still waiting on other results to tell which Panthers will travel to the Open New England Championship Meet this weekend, but he is already very satisfied with this indoor season, whatever berths might be earned.

He is particularly excited about Krieg and Currie qualifying for the NCAA Division III Indoor Championships in the 5000m and weight throw, respectively. They, and any other athletes who might qualify in the interim, will travel to Ohio Northern University March 14-15.

sportsbriefs

by Jeb Burchenal, Staff Writer

Women's hockey beats Wesleyan to earn top seed

The women's hockey team wrapped up its impressive regular season this past weekend with a convincing 5-1 victory over fellow NESCAC competitor Wesleyan.

The victory sealed the Panthers undefeated season in NESCAC play and clinched the top seed for the league tournament.

The Panthers jumped out to an early 2-0 lead on first-period goals from Anna McNally '11 — her 19th of the season — and Karen Levin's '08 seventh of the year. The Cardinals fired back in the second period, though, as junior Julia Cohen was able to put a blast from the blue line past keeper Lani Wright '10.

Though this proved to be their only score, it was not for a lack of chances. Wesleyan had a two-man advantage for 1:14 while the score was still 2-1, but could not score the equalizer.

Just seconds after the first penalty expired, Middlebury junior Molly Vitt collected the puck and found herself facing a short handed breakaway. She earned a penalty shot as she was pulled down from behind, but was unable to convert. But Heather McCormack '10 found the back of the net just 17 seconds after the failed attempt to extend the lead to 3-1.

McCormack and Erika Nakamura '09 found the net in the third period to cap off the 5-1 victory. Wright anchored the defense with a solid 16-save effort.

The Panthers have to wait for the results of the first round of the NESCAC tournament before they know who they will play in the semifinals on March 8.

Women's basketball ends season with loss to Tufts

For the second year in a row, the women's basketball opened NESCAC play at Tufts. The Panthers were not able to avenge their first-round knock-out from a year ago, as they fell to the Jumbos, 71-60, on Feb. 23.

Though it was closer than the first meeting of these two teams just two weeks ago, it was clear from the start that the Tufts' low-post offense, anchored by Khalilah Ummah, was too much for the Middlebury defense to contain.

Though the hosts never trailed throughout the game, it was a closely contested affair until the very end. The first 10 minutes of the game was a microcosm of the entire game as the Jumbos bolted out to an early 15-4 lead, only to have the Panthers climb back into the game on a run of their own.

Both teams cooled off for the rest of the second half, leading to a 36-28 score at the half. While Ummah put up eight points in the first half, Middlebury's standout guard Emily Johnson '09 outshined her. Johnson put on a shooting clinic in the first 20 minutes, scoring half of the Panther points, while trying to keep her team in the game.

The Pennsylvanian point guard continued her great performance and capped off a 10-2 Panther run to open the second half, which tied the contest at 38-38, by draining one from long distance. Ummah responded with a lay-up on the other end that put the hosts back on top. The Jumbos poured on the next 17 points before the Panthers could respond with a basket of their own. Middlebury did make a late surge that cut the deficit to 11 points, but time expired before they could complete the comeback.

Johnson finished the game with 23 points to lead all scorers, while Lani Young '08 and Katie Fisher '08 also put up double-digit scoring efforts. The Panthers end their season with an above-.500 record of 13-12.

The Great Eight

| Rank | Last | Team | Cap's Comments... |
|------|------|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | M. Basketball (19-6) | Tip of the hat goes to co-captains Mike Walsh '08 and Andrew Harris '08 for leading the team to the school's first NESCAC tourney victory. |
| 2 | 1 | Skiing | Second at the carnival and second in the Great Eight, but in first place in Party Power Rankings. |
| 3 | 3 | W. Hockey (19-2-3) | They keep chugging along, securing the top seed in the NESCAC tourney. Just a few weeks remain until a possible Plattsburgh rematch. |
| 4 | 7 | M. Hockey (16-6-2) | Skaters are picking up steam with consecutive wins and a rise in the Great Eight. |
| 5 | 5 | Swimming & Diving | Good weekend for swimmers, divers and drinking during daylight hours. |
| 6 | 8 | W. Squash (12-10) | Just like students on icy pathways, women fell in the final of the Walker Cup. |
| 7 | 4 | Indoor Track | Was a hit at New England's over the weekend, just like the "I Hate Research: Save Winter Carnival" shirts on campus. |
| 8 | 6 | W. Basketball (13-12) | Women finish their season at Tufts and this edition of the Great Eight. |



Jeff Patterson

Albert Handy '08 came in handy all game long for the Panthers. He scored 13 points and grabbed seven rebounds in 15 minutes of play.



Mike Bayersdorfer

MIDD TURNS IN A SECOND AT WINTER CARNIVAL

Mattie Ford '09 was the 24th fastest woman in the giant slalom (GS) on Saturday, Feb. 23. The Panthers, as a team, finished in second overall, 22 points behind Dartmouth College. (See pages 26-27)

Men make an emphatic statement

By Jeff Klein

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Last year's playoff loss in overtime to Colby is now a distant memory.

Before a raucous crowd in Pepin Gymnasium this past Saturday, Feb. 23, the Middlebury men's basketball team made history yet again by serving up a 96-59 blowout victory over Williams. With the win, the Panthers now have their first-ever playoff victory in the history of the NESCAC tournament.

Next up is Trinity, whom the Panthers will face in a semifinal showdown hosted by Amherst College this Saturday, March 1 at 8 p.m.

Against Williams, the Panthers were fired up from the start, opening the game with what has become a recurring sight this season: a three from Andrew Harris '08. Harris connected on four shots from downtown and finished the game with 15 points.

"It's a great feeling, probably

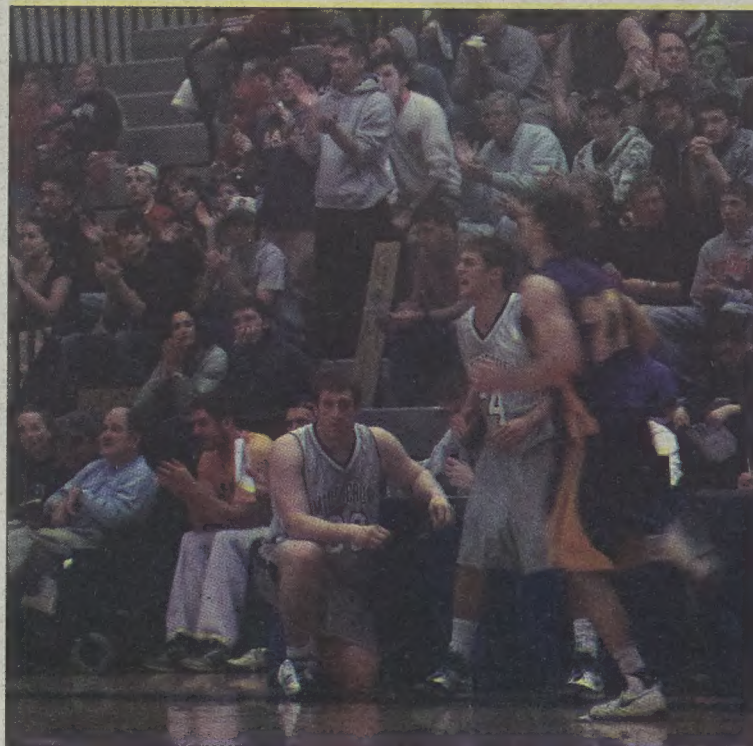
the most exhilarating feeling in basketball, second maybe to throwing down a thunderous dunk, but I wouldn't know about that," said Harris, describing the feeling of running back down the court after hitting a clutch three and the home crowd going wild.

The game remained relatively close for the duration of the first half. Middlebury would regularly

jump out to a modest lead before Williams would answer to close the deficit.

After the Panthers gained a 24-16 advantage, their largest lead of the first half, the Ephs pulled within one on three separate occasions before Middlebury restored a seven-point lead with clutch shoot-

SEE MEN LEAVE EPHS, PAGE 24



Jeff Patterson

Ben Rudin '09 spurs on his teammates while co-captain — and three-point specialist — Mike Walsh '08 waits for another opportunity to play.

Ross '08 was LaForce at NESCACs

By Jake Cohen

STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury swim team sent its women's contingent to Wesleyan University this past weekend to compete in the 2008 NESCAC championships. There, the women continued their late-season success by placing second in what was one of the tightest races in the conference history.

Although Williams won its eighth consecutive league title, Middlebury topped Amherst in a breathtaking meet that came down to the last event of the entire com-

NESCAC SWIM CHAMPIONSHIP

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Williams | 1853 |
| Middlebury | 1481.5 |
| Amherst | 1428.5 |
| Connecticut College | 831 |

petition, the 400-yard freestyle relay.

During the event, eight Middlebury records were set, three of which were also Wesleyan pool records.

Marika Ross '08 and diver Alanna Hanson '08 were honored as the Senior High Point Winners, an award that recognizes them as the strongest overall competitors in the conference in their combined four years of competition.

Ross won every individual event she swam in — the 50-yard (25.76 seconds), 100-yard (56.08 seconds) and 200-yard (2:02.23 seconds) butterfly — for the fourth year in a row.

"These girls have consistently been strong-holds for our team," said men's tri-captain Robbie Burton '08. "They deserve this recognition for all the hard work and

success they have enjoyed in their careers here."

Leaving Wesleyan on Sunday evening was an emotional time for the women's team. Tear-rid-

SEE PANTHERS SWIM, PAGE 24

Track vaults to ninth-place finish

By Livingston Burgess

STAFF WRITER

The Middlebury women's track team made strong statements about its depth and potential at the first postseason meet of its indoor season Saturday, Feb. 23, while the men's team struggled with injuries and illness as both teams competed in the New England Division III Championship meets.

Thirteen women earned All-New England honors in the races

at Smith while Ian O'Reilly '08 was the sole scorer for the men running at Tufts.

The day's top-placing Panthers came from the women's distance medley team that included Christina Kunycky '11, Sophia Spring '11, Simone Weisman '09 and Alexandra Krieg '08, who narrowly edged the squad from Brandeis for second-place finish.

"The relays were particularly strong for the women," said

head coach Martin Beatty, citing a groundswell of young talent, particularly in the sprint and mid-distance events. "This is a really good young class here."

Indeed, most of Middlebury's 33 points came in the relays. The 4x200m team of Anjuli Demers '10, Katy Magill '11, Grace Close '11 and Liz Huntley '08 placed third. The 4x400m team comprised

SEE FOUR-PERSON, PAGE 27

Amherst, Hamilton could not Skate with the Panthers**Williams awaits in the quarterfinals**

By Jeff Patterson

SPORTS EDITOR

Moments before their Friday face-off with Amherst, the nine seniors on the Middlebury men's hockey team were honored at center ice. Photos were snapped and the P.A. speakers crackled as proud parents popped their heads out from the rink door to stand next to their sons.

Nine goals later, the Panthers' weekend sweep — they beat the Lord Jeffs 4-2 and Hamilton 5-2 the following afternoon — gave them the NESCAC's number-two seed.

"It was a seed," said Rob MacIntyre '08 as he recalled Jed McDonald's '08 blast that beat Amherst goalie Cole Anderson midway through the third period and turned out to be the game-

winner. "It was a seed."

McDonald, who uses the same model of Warrior stick that two-time NHL's Hardest Shot champion Zdeno Chara plays with, said, "I got it as hard as I could have hit it."

Although the goal was unassisted, McDonald does not want to take all of the credit. "I think it's all in the stick," he joked. "There's a strong correlation there."

MacIntyre, whose mother Jean came all the way from Calgary to see the game — "She flew the red-eye that left Thursday night, flew all night to Ottawa and drove here with the Gilchris," he said — woke up the somewhat-quieted crowd of 1,805 after scoring his second goal in as many games to tie the contest, 1-1.

SEE TOWNSEND '10, PAGE 24



Jeff Patterson

Rob MacIntyre's '08 second-period power-play goal jumped over a sprawling Lord Jeffs defender and a helpless goalkeeper. The tally also jump-started the Panther offense as the men in white beat Amherst 4-2 on Feb. 23.

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room:
Krissie Poehling '08
Who knows the senior skier better? page 25



game to watch
First round of the NESCAC tournament
Men's hockey vs. Williams, March 1 at 4 p.m.



The Great Eight
After a 37-point playoff win over Williams, men's basketball now sits on top, page 27